

**Nebraska Historic Buildings Survey
Reconnaissance Survey Final Report
of**

Cherry County, Nebraska

prepared for

Nebraska State Historical Society

State Historic Preservation Office

by

Save America's Heritage

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION.....	1
Northern Nebraska Sand Hills Survey Area.....	2
Preservation Biases.....	4
Numerical Summary of Cherry County Reconnaissance Survey.....	6
HISTORIC OVERVIEW.....	7
Physical Description.....	7
Original Inhabitants.....	10
Military Presence.....	11
Settlement of Nebraska.....	12
County History.....	14
Cherry County Towns.....	16
Ethnic Groups and Population Trends.....	19
Agriculture and Ranching.....	20
Bibliography.....	23
GENERAL SUMMARY OF SURVEY RESULTS.....	26
Introduction.....	26
A Topical Discussion and Preliminary Inventory of Cherry County Historic Properties.....	27
Second Priority Properties of Cherry County.....	152
A Supratype Summary of Cherry County House Types.....	154
Cherry County House Types.....	157
SAND HILLS RANGE LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION.....	165
Introduction.....	165

Sand Hills Cattle Ranching Area.....	169
Property Types of the Sand Hills Cattle Ranching Area.....	172
History of Sand Hills Cattle Ranching.....	175
THE IMPACT OF THE KINKAID AND HOMESTEAD ACTS IN THE NORTHERN NEBRASKA SAND HILLS	186
EVOLUTION OF THE FAMILY RANCH.....	191
ROADSIDE LODGING IN VALENTINE, NEBRASKA.....	194
CATALOGUE HOUSES.....	200
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FUTURE WORK.....	203
National Register Recommendations.....	203
Potential Thematic Studies/Multiple Property Nominations.....	204
APPENDIX 1: RECONNAISSANCE RESEARCH DESIGN.....	212
APPENDIX 2: SUPRATYPE MASTER LIST FOR CHERRY COUNTY SUPRATYPES.....	225
APPENDIX 3: INDEX OF ABBREVIATIONS.....	227

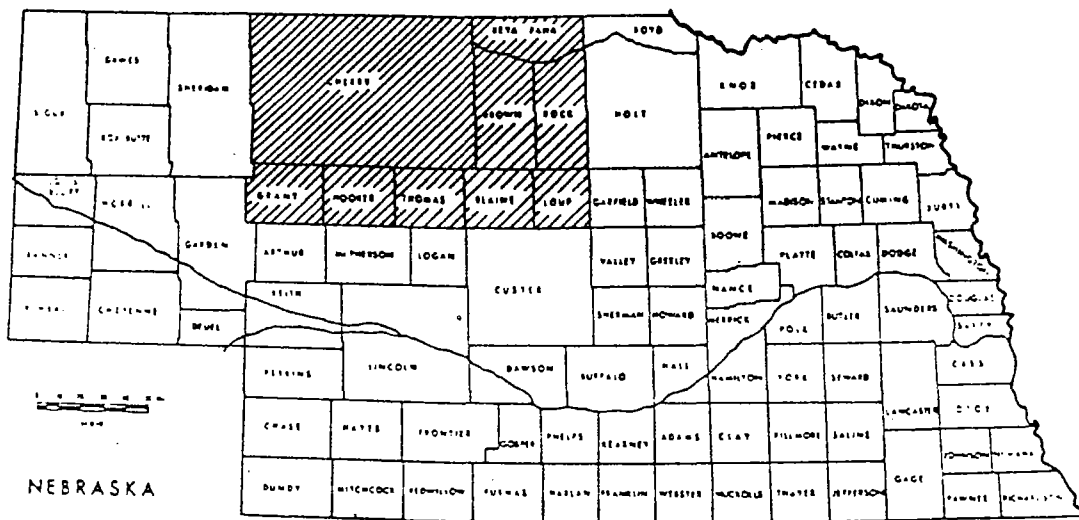
INTRODUCTION

In 1966, the National Historic Preservation Act was passed by the 89th United States Congress and subsequently signed into law by President Lyndon B. Johnson. With this Act, the Secretary of the Interior was called upon to expand and maintain a national register of historic places and give maximum encouragement to state governments to develop statewide historic preservation programs of their own. The Act recognized that one of the prerequisites for an effective national preservation program was the identification of historic resources across the country through comprehensive statewide surveys. Thus, state historic preservation offices were made responsible under the National Historic Preservation Act for decisions concerning the preservation of historic properties in their states.

The manifestation of the 1966 National Historic Preservation Act for Nebraska came in 1967 when state legislation directed the Nebraska State Historical Society to oversee the preservation of historical properties and conduct a comprehensive statewide historic survey. For this, the Nebraska Historic Buildings Survey (NeHBS) was formed and is conducted by the Nebraska State Historic Preservation Office (NeSHPO) as a part of the Nebraska State Historical Society. The NeHBS is an ongoing statewide study designed to identify and evaluate properties within a selected area to determine whether they may be of historic, architectural, archeological, or cultural significance. The NeSHPO serves as the central repository for the collected information and becomes the focal point for preservation planning decisions.

Starting with a limited survey of 125 sites, the NeHBS has now documented

approximately 37,000 properties and completed preliminary fieldwork in over two-thirds of Nebraska's 93 counties. The latest effort of the NeSHPO to document historic resources is the completion of the Northern Nebraska Sandhills Historic Building Survey.



Northern Nebraska Sandhills Survey Area

Save America's Heritage was selected by the NeSHPO and engaged in a contractual agreement to conduct the Northern Nebraska Sandhills Historic Buildings Survey. The survey consisted of the completed preliminary fieldwork in nine northern Nebraska counties: Grant, Cherry, Hooker, Thomas, Keya Paha, Brown, Rock, Blaine and Loup. Initiated in September, 1988, the survey was completed in May, 1989. With the completion of the nine-county project, the Northern Nebraska Sandhills was the second region of the state to be completed under the NeSHPO's plan for preliminary statewide reconnaissance coverage by

1991-92.

The primary objective of the survey was to provide a preliminary characterization of the extant historic resources in the northern Nebraska Sandhills region. The effort to document properties contributing to the context of Nebraska's historic architecture produces information which serves not only as a resource in preservation management, but also expresses a genuine concern for the history of the Great Plains built environment.

In addition to this, the historic buildings survey of the northern Sandhills region has produced information which serves not only as a tool for local and state preservation planning but also contributes knowledge to the contextual overview of Nebraska's historic architecture. With each historic building survey performed by the NeSHPO, additional information is added to a larger pool of data which allows a greater understanding of the historic resources extant throughout the state.

Another primary objective of the survey was the identification of a definitive group of historic properties potentially eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). The Historic Buildings Survey of Cherry County has accomplished this goal by identifying a total of 89 historic properties considered potentially eligible for the NRHP. In addition to the completion of these primary goals, several of the survey's secondary goals were also satisfied. These include the identification of specific building types or construction methods which either related or were unique to the historic built environment of Nebraska, and the expansion of knowledge regarding ethnic settlement and building technologies.

Preservation Biases

It is Save America's Heritage belief that people, and the places in which they live, are the raw materials of history. A community, its inhabitants and its development through time are proper subjects for our contemplation, for it is through such studies that we gain a fuller comprehension of the present.

The public mention of a "historic building survey" often fails to produce a collective image or understanding. A strong social awareness towards preservation of our built environment does exist in the rehabilitation of aged urban districts for example, but the notion of recording historic structures as a preservation activity remains a generally obscure concept. Fortunately, this obscurity is due to a lack of awareness rather than a lack of genuine concern. Communicating the importance of this activity as a documentation of our Great Plains history cannot be stressed enough.

Furthermore, it is also the opinion of Save America's Heritage that such surveys are a necessary tool in the recording of Great Plains settlement. The numerical demise of Nebraska's rural architecture is directly linked to the decline of the rural-based population. In the year 1900, 76.3% of Nebraska's population was found in rural towns or on the farms. However, by 1980 the rural population has dropped nearly 40 percentage points to the current figure of 37.1% (see Table 1).

TABLE 1. LOCATIONAL PERCENTAGE OF NEBRASKA POPULATION,
1900-1980.

Selected Years	Population	Urban Percentage	Rural
1900	1,066,300	23.7	76.3
1910	1,192,214	26.1	73.9
1920	1,296,372	31.3	68.7
1930	1,377,963	35.3	64.7
1940	1,315,834	39.1	60.9
1950	1,325,510	46.9	53.1
1960	1,411,921	54.3	45.7
1970	1,485,333	61.5	38.5
1980	1,569,825	62.9	37.1

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, Census of Population, 1980.

The affect on the historic built environment has been devastating. The number of houses now exceeds the demand and the older, perhaps less functional and aesthetic buidings are not re-inhabited. The buildings then deteriorate and are either dismantled or collapse. Consequently, there exists an increasing decline in the "pool" of historic building resources. Compounding the demise of these rural resources is the current decline of the agricultural economy. The prospect of farming as a profitable future for the next generation is now less and less desirable. This, in turn, contributes to the decreasing rural population and re-inhabitation of existing historic buildings.

The enumeration of social changes affecting historic resources can be lengthy and complex. It is clear, however, that the result of these changes coupled with the diminishing effects of time substantiate the need for historic building surveys. It is through such surveys that we not only record the built settlement of Nebraska, but reach a fuller understanding of our present world.

NUMERICAL SUMMARY OF CHERRY COUNTY RECONNAISSANCE SURVEY

CHERRY COUNTY	TOTAL PROPERTIES	CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS	CONTRIBUTING SITES	CONTRIBUTING STRUCTURES	CONTRIBUTING OBJECTS
CE00: Rural	220 (28)	874 (28)	6	24	230
CE02: Brownlee	4	6	0	0	0
CE03: Cody	40	66	0	0	12
CE04: Crookston	20	31	0	0	0
CE05: Eli	4	7	0	0	0
CE06: Elsmere	1	1	0	0	1
CE09: Kilgore	17	29	0	0	0
CE10: Merriman	35	38	0	1	1
CE11: Menzel	2	3	0	0	0
CE13: Sparks	2	3	0	0	0
CE14: Valentine	159 (3)	227 (3)	1	0	4
CE15: Woodlake	44 (1)	72 (1)	0	1	2
Totals	548 (32)	1357 (32)	7	26	250

HISTORIC OVERVIEW

"...brown shading to cream yellow on the hill slopes; the whitish horizon, streaked with wind, blending to the deepest blue overhead- ...

From Sandhill Sundays (1930)
by Mari Sandoz

Physical Description

Cherry County, the largest county in Nebraska, is located in the north-central section of the state. It is bordered by South Dakota to the north, Sheridan County to the west, by Grant, Hooker, Thomas and Blaine Counties to the South and by Keya Paha and Brown Counties to the East. The County is rectangular in shape, being 96 miles long and 63 miles wide with a total of 6,048 square miles.

The climatic conditions in Cherry County, as in the whole Sandhills region, are characterized by extremes; the average annual temperature is 47 degrees and the wind velocity is high. The annual growing season averages 140 day and there is an average annual rainfall of 22 inches per year. The winter and summer both see extremes in temperatures and the spring and fall are relatively brief.

The majority of land in Cherry County falls into the Sandhills classification. However, in a county with such a large land mass as Cherry County, a variety of geographical regions are present. The Sandhills are characterized by the sandy loam soil composed of incoherent fine to medium sand, and the ridges and dunes are formed by wind and erosion. Native grasses grow in abundance over the hills. These natural grasses include Sand Reedgrass, Sand Dropseed, Grama, Switchgrass, Big Bluestem, Little Bluestem, Slough Grass

and Indian Grass. These and many other grasses generally cover the Sandhills and provide a sod covering over the sandy soil. In Cherry County there are five distinct types of grassland regions present: Dune Sand, Dry Valley, Wet Meadows, Alkali Meadows and Marshes.

The Niobrara River region provides the county with a most exceptional environmental area. According to the Nature Conservancy, a national environmental organization which purchased 54,000 acres of land along the Niobrara River in 1980, this area contains, within a 30 mile area, six major ecological areas. "Those systems are the eastern most extension of the Rocky Mountains pine forest, northernmost extension of Sandhills prairie, western most extension of both the tallgrass prairie and eastern deciduous forest, southernmost extension of paper birch trees, and the edge of the mixed grass prairie," (Beel, 1986, p.83). The Conservancy land provides a locale for research into the ecological stability of the region.

The main rivers in the county are the Niobrara, the Snake, and the Loup with their numerous tributaries. These rivers provide Nebraska with some of its most magnificent waterfalls and rapids. There are also many lakes, ponds and marshes to be found in the county.

The county is home to the 71,516 acre Valentine National Wildlife Refuge which was established in 1935 in south-central Cherry County to preserve natural habitat for nesting and migrating waterfowl. This area includes lakes, marshes, meadows and sandhills. The refuge is located on the site of old Fort Niobrara. In 1935 a Civilian Conservation Corps (C.C.C.) camp was located at the Refuge and accomplished the following improvements:

The entire refuge boundary line consisting of about 125 miles, was fenced in with a five strand barbed wire fence. Roads and trails were built to gain access to major lakes and important areas. Several artificial pot holes were constructed to increase potential nesting sites for waterfowl and insure water during dry seasons. Fruit bearing trees and shrubs were planted to increase the food supply and improve cover conditions for upland game, and song and insectivorous birds. Three sets of substantial buildings were constructed to house refuge employees and five over night patrolman cabins were set up at convenient locations. Two 100-foot steel observation towers were erected to aid in law enforcement, fire detection, and to observe bird migration. (History of Cherry County, Charles S. Reese, article by R.C. Winslow, 1945, p. 79)

After the C.C.C. camp was abandoned in 1939, the development work continued by the Works Progress Administration (W.P.A.) until 1940. The Refuge is still in operation today.

Cherry County is also home to the Fort Niobrara National Wildlife Refuge which was created out of the abandoned Fort Niobrara area in 1912. Currently the refuge contains 19,124 acres of native prairie and wooded breaks along the Niobrara River. This area was also developed by the C.C.C. in the 1930's with improvements similar to those at the Valentine National Wildlife Refuge. There is an educational center located on the Refuge known as the Fort Niobrara Visitor Center.

The Valentine Fish Hatchery was established in 1905 by the state for the purpose of creating a supply of stock fish for the states lakes. The Hatchery is located two miles northeast of Valentine on the north banks of the Minnechadusa Creek. In the late 1930's a dam was built across the creek to form a lake. This lake supplies water to 22 nearby ponds that serve the Hatchery.

In April 1902, President Theodore Roosevelt set aside land for two divisions of the Nebraska National Forest, one of which is located in Cherry

County. The purpose of the Forest was to promote the growth of timber in Nebraska. The Forest area is located near the heart of Cherry County south of Nenzel between the Niobrara and Snake Rivers. In 1971 the Forest was renamed the Samuel R. McKelvie National Forest. In 1972 young men from the Pine Ridge Civilian Conservation Center completed a 23-unit campground known as Steer Creek Campground which is administered by the National Forest Service.

Original Inhabitants

The first people known to have roamed the area that includes the Sandhills of Nebraska were those of the Folsom Culture. It existed between 15,000 to 10,000 years ago. Sites of the Folsom Culture people have been found at the head of the North Loup, Niobrara, Elkhorn, Platte and Republican Rivers in Nebraska. The Niobrara and North Loup Rivers are in the Sandhills region of the state. The Yuma were the next people known to have inhabited the Sandhills region. Yuma Culture overlapped the Folsom Culture and continued until around 5,000 years ago. The Old Signal Butte Culture came into existence about 5,000 years ago but these people were not known to have inhabited the Sandhills region. Between 500 A.D. and 1,300 A.D. three Indian Cultures were found in the Sandhills: the Sterns Creek, the Mira Creek and the Woodland Cultures. From 1,300 A.D. to 1,600 A.D. the Upper Republican Culture is found throughout the state. Sites in the Sandhills include one on the Loup River and on some of the Cherry County Lakes. From 1,600 A.D. to 1,800 A.D. the Dismal River Culture was found in the Sandhills, located near the Middle Loup, North Loup and the Dismal Rivers and in general is found in the west and southwest portions of the state.

After 1,800 A.D. the Pawnee and Sioux tribes claimed the land of the Sandhills as hunting grounds. The two tribes disputed various tracts between themselves. The Pawnee claimed the drainage area of the Loup River as their hunting grounds and camped near the mouth of the river. The Sioux claimed lands east to the forks of the Platte and north to the mouth of the White River in South Dakota as their hunting grounds. Both tribes depended on the bison, which roamed the Sandhills in vast numbers, as their primary source of food and raw material. Between 1854 and 1876 all the territories that the Sioux and the Pawnee claimed as their hunting ground had been acquired by the U.S. Government through a series of treaties. The final treaty of 1876 opened up the entire Sandhills region to settlement.

Military Presence

Cherry County was the site of Fort Niobrara, which was established in April, 1880 and abandoned in 1906. The fort was located in the northeast section of the county approximately 4 miles east of present day Valentine. The Fort was established to protect the settlers from Indians and to supervise the Rosebud Reservation in South Dakota. Originally, built of adobe brick, many additions were added over the years to the fort.

Throughout the 1880's and into the 1890's the Fort's troops took part in various encounters and activities with the Indians to the north at the Pine Ridge and Rosebud Reservations. These included supervision, disbursement of supplies and occasional military duties. There were Indians scares during this period such as when the Brule, who had found a new faith in the Messiah which

they expressed through ghost dancing, came to believe that they were the chosen people and would be impervious to the white man's bullets. This episode culminated in the 1890 massacre at Wounded Knee, after which the Indians were subdued. Although some skirmishes did occur in Nebraska at this time, the Indian troubles did not greatly affect Cherry County settlement.

The 9th Calvary, a black company, was stationed at Fort Niobrara for some time in the 1890's. There were some reports of troubles between the troops and the settlers, in general however, the Fort was an asset to the developing County. Military forts not only protected the settlers of a new territory but also provided an economic boost to early communities. The troops at the fort were paid regularly and were a ready market for settlers goods and services. Towns near forts generally prospered and social establishments were often opened to cater to the needs of the enlisted men. Both Valentine and Thatcher benefited from their location in the Fort Niobrara vicinity.

Settlement of Nebraska

The area that was to become the State of Nebraska became a United States possession through the Louisiana Purchase in 1803. The first American exploration of the territory commenced on March 14, 1804 with the Lewis and Clark Expedition. Prior to its opening as a Territory for settlement Nebraska was part of the vast area of land set aside for all Native Americans by an Act of Congress in 1834. Through a series of conflicts and treaties between the United States and the various Native American tribes of the region, the U.S. Government was able to acquire this area and open it to general settlement by

whites. Nebraska territory was established in 1854 and 13 years later gained statehood. The settlement of Nebraska generally moved across the state from the southeast to the northwest following the routes of the wagon trails, Platte River and later, the railroads. The extension of the railroad was essential to the opening up of Nebraska lands to settlers.

From its opening in 1854 until 1862, settlement in Nebraska Territory was generally done under the provisions of the Pre-Emption Act of 1841. This act allowed a settler to file for up to 160 acres for a fixed price, generally \$1.25 to \$2.50 per acre. Settlement of Nebraska under this act was limited to the southeast portions of the state and no settlement occurred under these provisions in Cherry County. The Homestead Act of 1862, which became effective January 1, 1863, allowed a settler to acquire between 40 to 160 acres without paying the standard fee per acre to the federal government. This Act did provide that the homesteader remain on the land for 5 years and meet a specified minimum level of improvements. It was under this act that the first settlement of the Sandhills occurred.

In 1903 Moses P. Kinkaid, then Nebraska Congressman, introduced an act to Congress that would allow the homesteader to file for up to 640 acres of land as opposed to the usual 160 acres. This act specifically applied to the Sandhills region of Nebraska; also, it recognized that the Sandhills region did not lend itself to 160 acre farms or to the style of farming developed in other areas of Nebraska. The arid Sandhills required that a greater land area be utilized to provide the means for successful agricultural and/or ranching endeavors.

The Kinkaid Act was one of the most important elements in the settlement of the Sandhills region. From 1904 to 1920, the Kinkaid Act resulted in the peak population of the Sandhills.

Due to the importance of the Homestead and Kinkaid Acts to the northern Sandhills region, Save America's Heritage has included a more detailed analysis of their impact in the General Summary of Survey Results found in subsequent articles of this report.

The period between 1900 and 1930 was a prosperous one for the Sandhills and the state in general. Improvements were made in transportation, education, agricultural and government. Populations across the state reached peaks throughout this period with the exception of the eastern counties and those with major communities. This period was the zenith of rural Nebraska.

The Great Depression period--the 1930's--brought an end to the period of population growth within the Sandhills. The region and the state suffered under the harsh economic and climatic conditions of this period. Many of the remaining "Kinkaiders" permanently left the region. Population declines were marked during this period and in general continued to decline until they stabilized in the 1960's.

County History

The earliest settlers into Cherry County came in the 1870's. These men were cattle ranchers who brought their herds to the region to graze. The first official homestead in the county was filed in 1880. In 1876 the federal government, in an agreement with the Sioux, promised to provide the Indians

beef cattle for their new reservations in South Dakota. Cattlemen from Texas who brought cattle for the Indians, realized that the region was ideal for open-range ranching. Many of these ranches persisted until the passage of the Kinkaid Act in 1904. At that time it was recognized by the federal government that the ranchers were illegally fencing in federal lands and legal action was instituted. The Spade Ranch, probably the most famous of these early ranches, was owned by Bartlett Richards who was convicted in 1906 of fencing in federal lands. After an appeal which he lost, Bartlett served time in the Hastings jail where he died one month before his sentence was up.

The development of Cherry County is tied to the completion of the railroad and the establishment of Fort Niobrara. The Elkhorn Valley route of the Sioux City and Pacific Railroad reached the county in 1882 and the Fort was established in 1880. Cherry County was defined by an Act of Legislature February 23, 1883 and the county was organized April 4, 1883. By 1883 the railroad had crossed the Niobrara River and reached Valentine. In 1885 the railroad line through the county was completed and continued westward into Wyoming.

The years from 1883 to 1890 mark the first period of widespread settlement by homesteaders in Cherry County. By 1890 the county had reached a population of 6,428 residents. The 1890's were a period of drought and economic depression and many areas in the Sandhills experienced a population loss. Cherry County, while not increasing in population, weathered the drought well and in 1900 the county had a population of 6,541 residents.

The passage of the Kinkaid Act in 1904 and the resolution of disputes with

the owners of the county's large ranches, brought about a period of economic and population growth for Cherry County. It was during this period that many new settlements were established in the county. Between 1904 and 1919, no less than 40 post offices were established in the County; the majority of these, however, were cancelled by the 1930's. The population in the county also rose until 1920 and in 1930 began to decline. In 1910 Cherry County had 10,414 residents and its peak population occurred in 1920 with 11,753 residents. By the 1930's many of the "Kinkaiders" had begun to move out of the county and the Great Depression and drought of the 1930's signalled the end of population growth in the county. The 1980 population for Cherry County is very close to its 1890 population with 6,758 residents.

Cherry County Towns

Valentine, the county seat, was established in 1882 with the post office beginning at that time. The Elkhorn route of the Sioux City and Pacific Railroad reached the town in 1883. A Federal Land Office was established at Valentine in 1883 and the government also built a supply warehouse there. Valentine was the end of the railroad line until 1885 when the line was extended into Wyoming. The town was incorporated January 8, 1884. In 1889 a Federal Weather Bureau Station was established in the community and in 1904 the Valentine Fish Hatchery was begun by the state.

Early construction in Valentine was woodframe, including the sidewalks. Early structures included general stores, drugstores, dry good markets, saloons, hotels, restaurants, schools, churches and the county court house.

Despite the county's overall population trends Valentine has maintained itself as a prosperous community and is currently the center of social life in the area. Highway 2 from Thedford was extended in the 1930's as was U.S. Highway 20; many new businesses were built along the intersections of these highways.

Modern buildings are combined with old along Valentine's main street where there are business establishments of all kinds; saloons, cafes, civic buildings and the post office. The Cherry County Historical Society maintains an office and museum in the town. There are numerous churches and schools in the town as well. In 1980 there were 2,829 residents in Valentine.

Merriman, located in the northwest section of the county, was established in March, 1886 and the post office is still in existence today. The town's peak population was in 1930 with 361 residents. Early activity in Merriman was associated with the railroad and the community was a center for cattle shipment. Merriman experienced a boon during World War I when a potash plant was established there in 1918. The potash plant became Merriman's major source of income and when it closed in the 1930's the community's economy was hit hard. In 1969 NTV(Nebraska Television) built a tower and studio 17 miles south of Merriman and KRNE-TV began broadcasting from the area. By 1982 Merriman businesses included a food and general market, a bank, a post office, a fire department and private dwellings.

Woodlake, located on the east-central edge of the county, was established in 1882 when the railroad arrived. The post office was opened November 26, 1883. Woodlake is a small town and in 1983 had a paved main street with lights,

a school, two churches, a post office, a bar and cafe, a rural fire department and a Masonic Lodge.

Brownlee was established in 1882 with the post office opening in January of 1888. The town's peak population was in 1940 with 86 residents. Brownlee is located in southwest corner of township 27 north, range 28 west. Ten miles north of Brownlee the community of Dewitty was established in 1908 when three Black Kinkaiders families settled in the area. This was the only Black settlement in the northwestern Sandhills and by 1912, 79 claims had been filed. In 1916 the name of the post office was changed from Dewitty to Audacious. Located in section 34 of township 38, range 30 Audacious had a church and cemetery. The area around the Black settlement included two school districts with three schools. But by the 1930's all the settlers had sold out their lands and moved on. Today there is no physical evidence of the Black community.

Cody, another town located on the railroad line, was established November 5, 1886. Like Merriman, the town was a cattle shipment center in its early days. Cody's peak population occurred in 1920 with 428 residents. In 1919 a brick bank with marble interior was constructed; it remains intact today, despite a 1981 addition to the building. In 1982 Cody had a population of 180 residents and the town included the post office, the bank, a community club and theatre, a bar and grill, two automobile dealerships, the Reike Meidl Legion Post No, 319, a gas station and a school.

Other communities in Cherry County along the railroad line include Sparks, Kilgore, Nenzel, Thatcher and Crookston. Sparks, established in March, 1888, had a peak population in 1980 of 15 residents. In 1967 a kindergarten through

eighth grade school was built in Sparks. Kilgore, located in township 34 north, range 31 west, was originally known as Georgia when the post office was established there in 1893; the name was changed to Kilgore in 1904. The peak population of Kilgore occurred in 1920 with 274 residents. Nenzel, located between Kilgore and Cody on the railroad line in township 34 north, range 32 west, was established in 1885. Its peak population occurred in 1940 with 125 residents; by 1982, there were only 25 residents. Thatcher was established in 1884 but its post office was discontinued in 1888. This community was very close to Valentine and was an extension of a railroad tent town while the line was being constructed. Crookston was platted in 1885 and a post office was established in 1886. The community's peak population occurred in 1940 with 373 residents. In 1982 there was a library, Catholic Church, and an Isaac Walton League building in the town.

Ethnic Groups and Population Trends

Throughout the settlement period (1883-1920) of Cherry County, Germans, English, Canadians, and Danish were the main ethnic groups that entered the county. In 1890 out of 6,428 people, 1,038 were foreign-born. In 1890 the largest group of immigrants to enter the county were from Germany; 432 arrived in that year. From 1900 to 1950 there were a total of 1,035 people listed on the various federal census as being of German birth. A community, known as the "German Settlement", was allegedly comprised predominantly of German craftspersons. From 1890 to 1950 there was also a significant number of people

development of the county's resources has occurred with an eye to conservation of the natural beauty of the region; an appropriate blend of agricultural production and conservation seems to have been achieved.

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GENERAL SUMMARY OF SURVEY RESULTS

Introduction

The objectives associated with the Cherry County Historic Buildings Survey were to provide a preliminary characterization of the historic resources extant within the county and to produce information which will serve as a reference in the preservation management of these resources. A post-survey evaluation of these goals reveals that the Cherry County Historic Buildings Survey has successfully satisfied these preliminary objectives. The satisfaction of these goals can be expressed in two quantifiable terms: numerical and geographic. Each street of the eleven Cherry County communities and nearly every rural road was surveyed using reconnaissance survey methods. The numbers produced by the survey are indicative of the comprehensive nature with which the survey was performed. A total of 1,650 contributing buildings, structures, objects and sites were documented on 548 individual properties. The survey canvassed approximately 2,678,400 acres (4,185 square miles) and identified 103 properties potentially eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

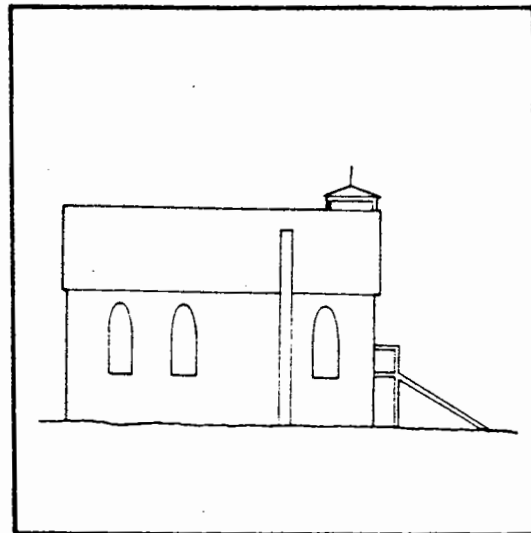
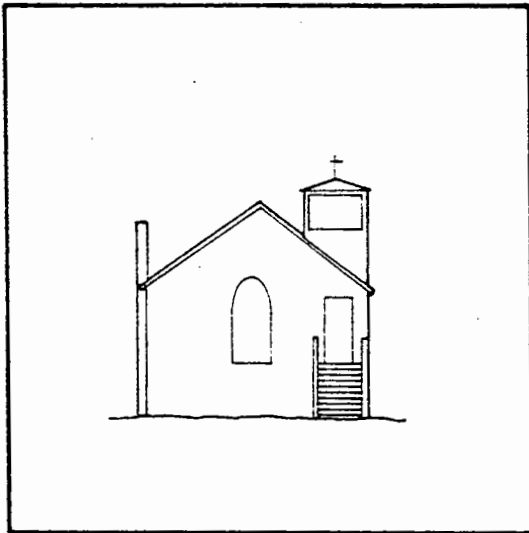
A Topical Discussion and Preliminary Inventory of Cherry County Historic Properties

The following discussion consists of a topical summary and Preliminary Inventory of the historic properties documented during the Cherry County Historic Buildings Survey. This discussion is arranged according to the Topical Listing of Historic Contexts authored by the Nebraska State Historic Preservation Office (NeSHPO, 1988). It includes discussion only of those properties potentially eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) or those that contribute to the historic character of Cherry County. Included at the end of each summary is an illustrated inventory of properties which appear potentially eligible for National Register listing in reference to the Historic Context being discussed. Then, located at the end of the Preliminary Inventory, is a listing of properties which also contribute to the historic character of Cherry County but are of second priority with respect to National Register listing. These properties have been labeled "Second Priority Properties" and are included in the Inventory for purposes of defining those buildings that may lack the significance or integrity for NRHP listing but which help define the character of the historic built environment of Cherry County.

Historic Context: Religion

The contextual topic of Religion encompasses any cultural manifestation relative to the faithful devotion of an acknowledged deity. This includes any social entity relating to sacred organizations and rituals or considered a sacred place. In terms of historic buildings and structures, this includes churches, parsonage-rectories, cemeteries, fellowship halls, and schools. In Cherry County, 20 properties relating to the context of Religion were catalogued. Of these 20, 13 properties are located in towns with the remaining seven properties being rural. All of the five surveyed cemeteries are located in rural areas. These include the Kewanee Cemetery, the Nenzel Cemetery, the Lavaca Cemetery, and two unmarked cemeteries. Though these cemeteries contribute to the history of Cherry County they are not included in the Preliminary Inventory as potentially eligible for NRHP listing. However, eight religious related properties recorded in Cherry County have been preliminarily recommended for National Register listing.

A breakdown of the eight religious properties shows 14 contributing buildings (eight of these being churches), and one contributing object. The earliest of the churches is the Methodist Church located in Valentine (CE14-67) and built by Wesley Holsclaw in 1898 with native stone from the Minnechaduza Creek valley. CE06-1, the General Baptist Church in Elsmere, is the newest church included in the Inventory and was built of frame and stucco in 1948. All of the churches judged potentially eligible for the National Register contain rectangular Hall-Type forms and are relatively small in size.



NeHBS NUMBER: CE02-1

DATE: c.1910

RESOURCE NAME: Brownlee Union Church

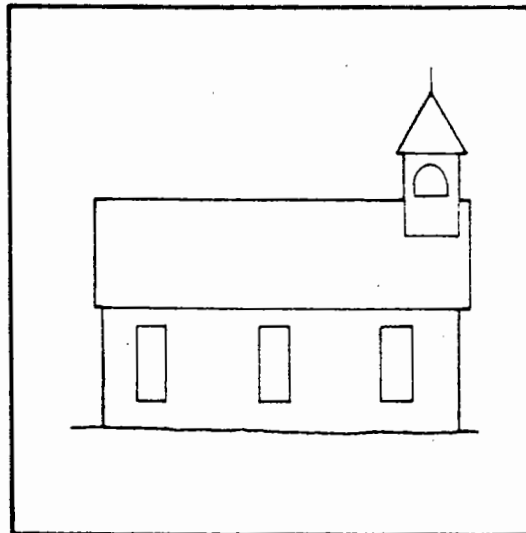
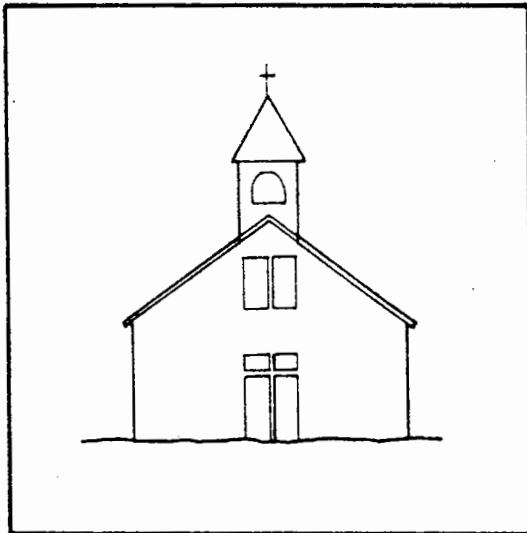
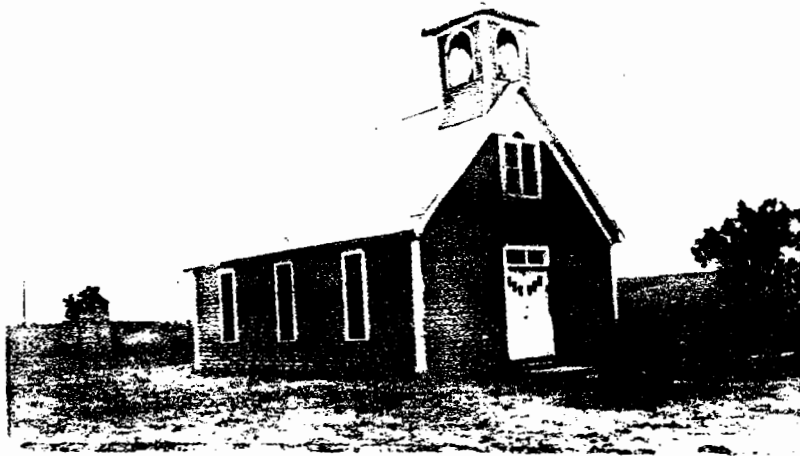
HISTORIC CONTEXT: Religion: (02)

PROPERTY TYPE: Church 02.4.1

LOCATION: See Plat Map

TOTAL CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS: 2 **STRUCTURES:** 0
SITES: 0 **OBJECTS:** 0

This property was included for its importance to early twentieth-century religious practice in Brownlee. The church building retains a high degree of historic integrity.



NeHBS NUMBER: CE05-3

DATE: 1919

RESOURCE NAME: General Baptist Church

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Religion: (02.10.01)

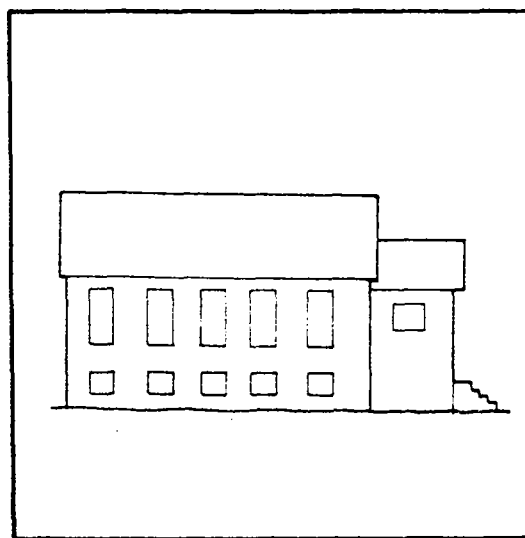
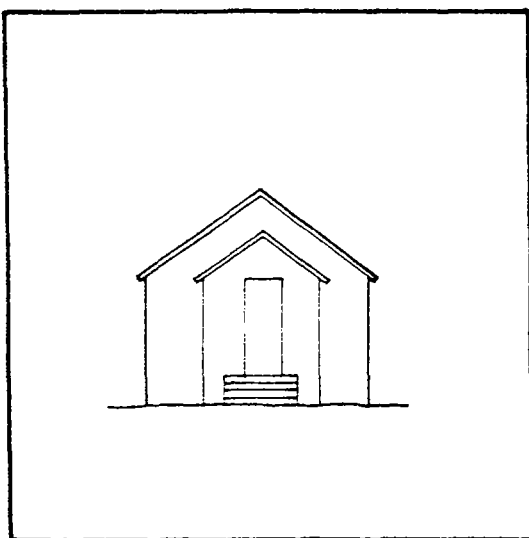
PROPERTY TYPE: Church (02.4.1)

LOCATION: W.S. Main Bet. Dexter Sts & Old Highway 20, Eli.

TOTAL CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS: 1 **STRUCTURES:** 0

SITES: 0 **OBJECTS:** 0

Significant example of an early twentieth-century Hall-Type building in Cherry County. This building contributes to the historic development of Eli and retains original integrity.



NeHBS NUMBER: CE06-1

DATE: 1948

RESOURCE: General Baptist Church

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Religion: (02.10.01)

PROPERTY TYPE: Church (02.4.1)

LOCATION: SW1/4, NW1/4, Sec. 1, T.25N, R.25W, Elsmere

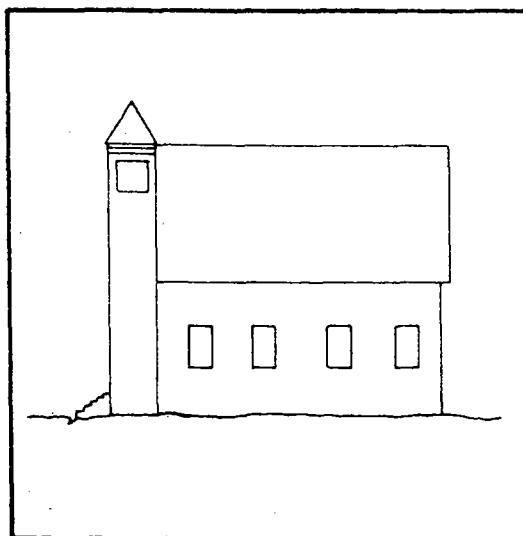
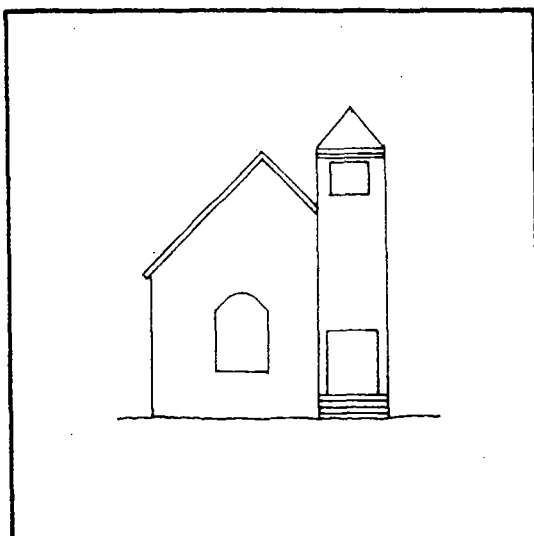
CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS: 1

STRUCTURES: 0

SITES: 0

OBJECTS: 1

Included in the Preliminary Inventory for its association to Hall-Type religious properties in Cherry County. Though of a later date than most included properties, CE06-1 reflects a commonly used religious type.



NeHBS NUMBER: CE09-6

DATE: 1910

RESOURCE NAME: Kilgore Methodist Church

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Religion: (02.06.06)

PROPERTY TYPE: Church (02.4.1), Parsonage (02.4.3)

LOCATION: NEC Main & Washington Sts, Kilgore

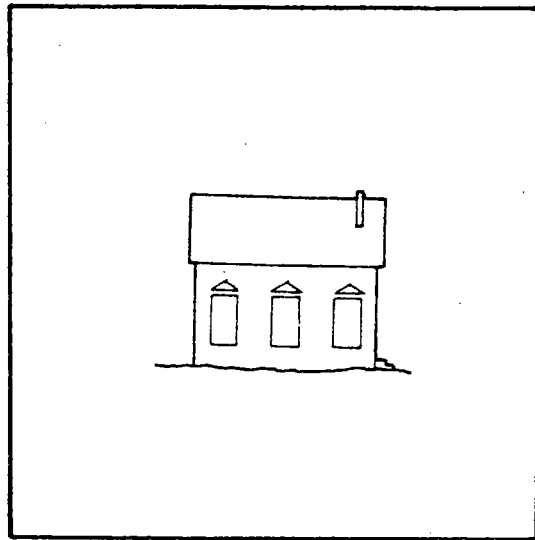
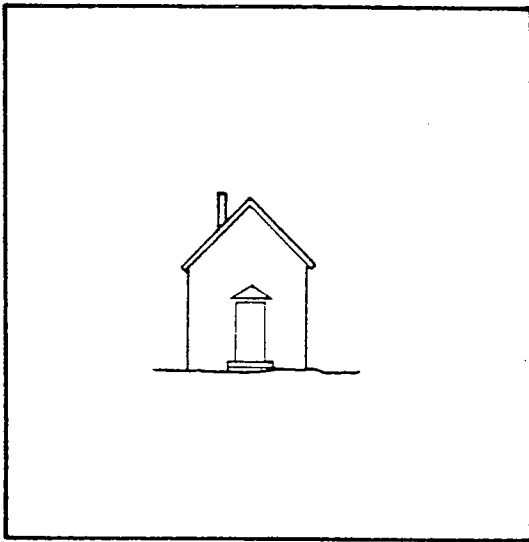
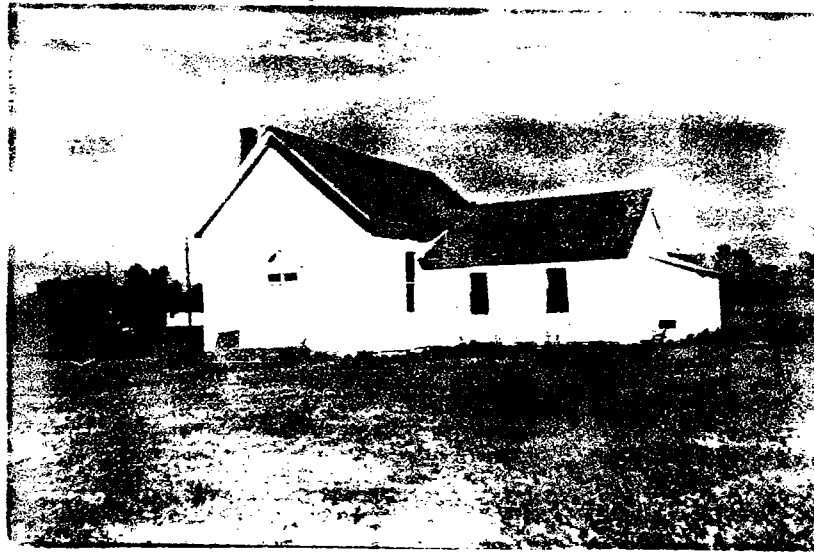
CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS: 3

STRUCTURES: 0

SITES: 0

OBJECTS: 1

Both the church and the neighboring parsonage are well preserved examples of religious properties and were selected for their role in early twentieth-century sand hills development.



NeHBS NUMBER: CE13-2

DATE: 1888

RESOURCE NAME: Sparks Church

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Religion: (02)

PROPERTY TYPE: Church (02.4.1)

LOCATION: SEC Simmons Ave & Main St, Sparks

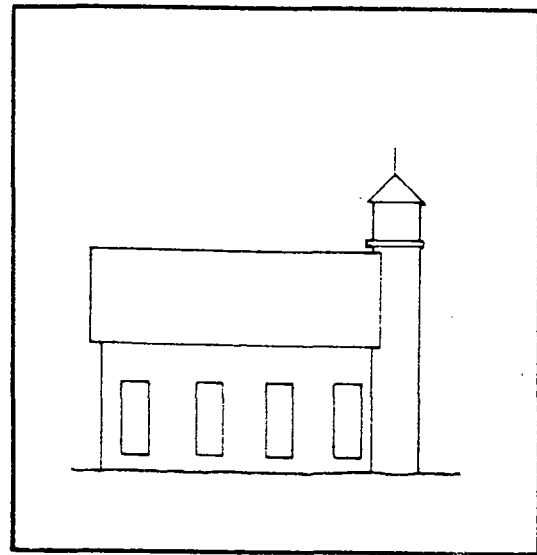
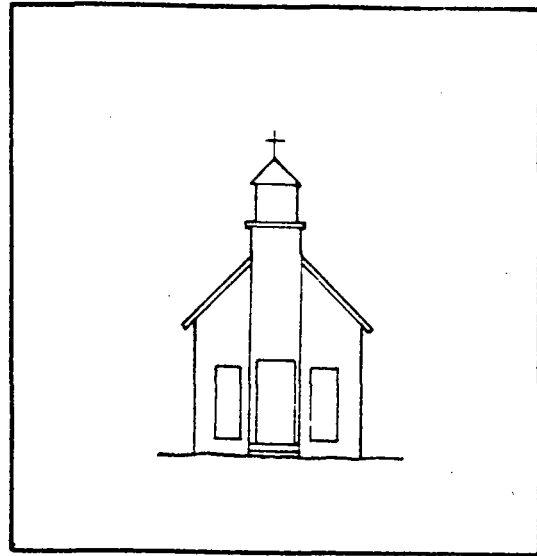
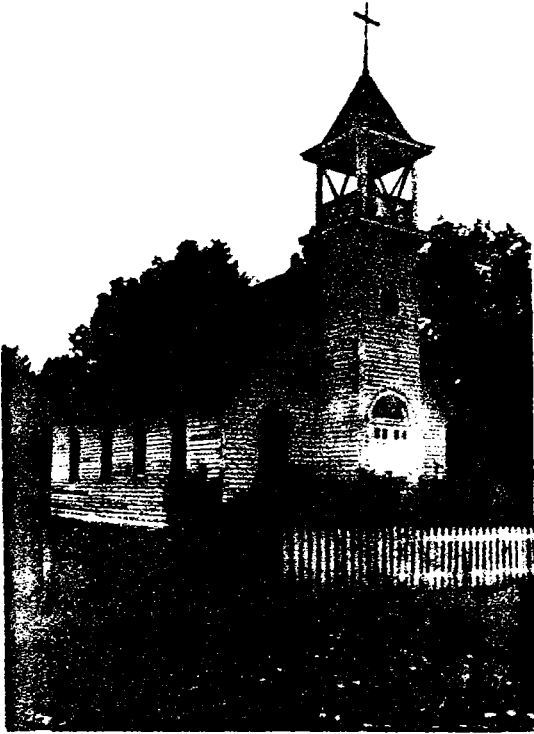
CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS: 2

STRUCTURES: 0

SITES: 0

OBJECTS: 0

This small frame structure is important for its contribution as church/community hall for the Spark's citizens. Historic integrity remains true to the original building.



NeHBS NUMBER: CE15-33

DATE: 1915

RESOURCE NAME: Sacred Heart Catholic Church

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Religion: (02.01.01)

PROPERTY TYPE: Church (02.4.1)

LOCATION: NEC Walnut & Lincoln Sts, Woodlake

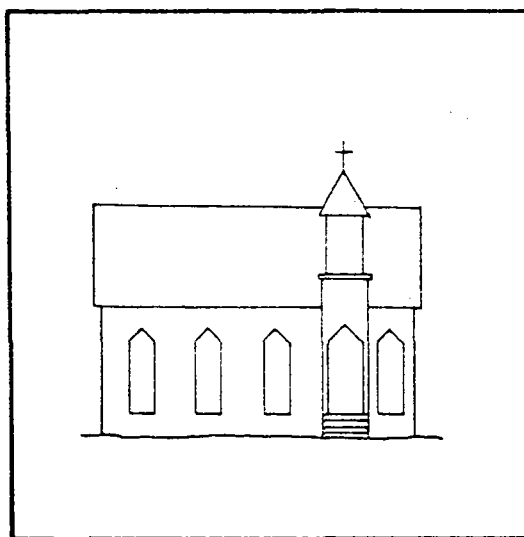
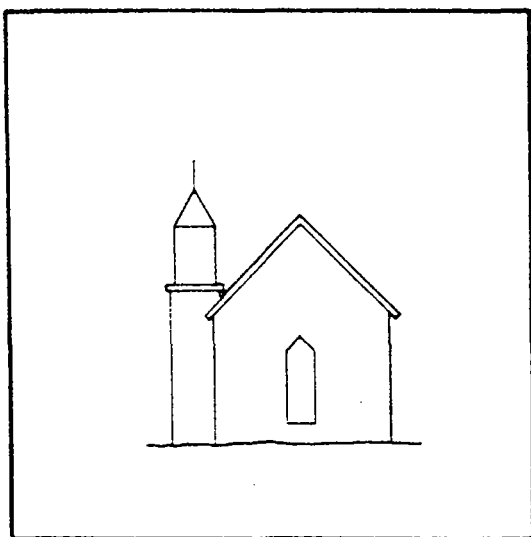
CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS: 2

STRUCTURES: 0

SITES: 0

OBJECTS: 1

Frame church building potentially significant for its role as the focal point of early twentieth-century religious worship in the community of Wood Lake.



NeHBS NUMBER: CE14-67

DATE: 1894

RESOURCE NAME: Methodist Church

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Religion: (02.06.06)

PROPERTY TYPE: Church (02.4.1)

LOCATION: NWC 3rd & N. Hall Sts, Valentine

CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS: 1

STRUCTURES: 0

SITES: 0

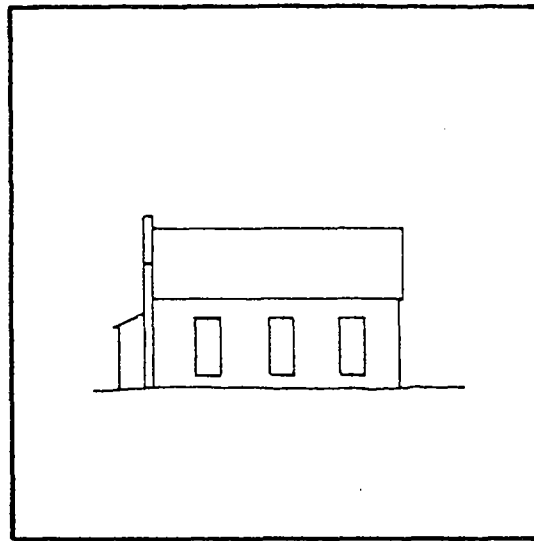
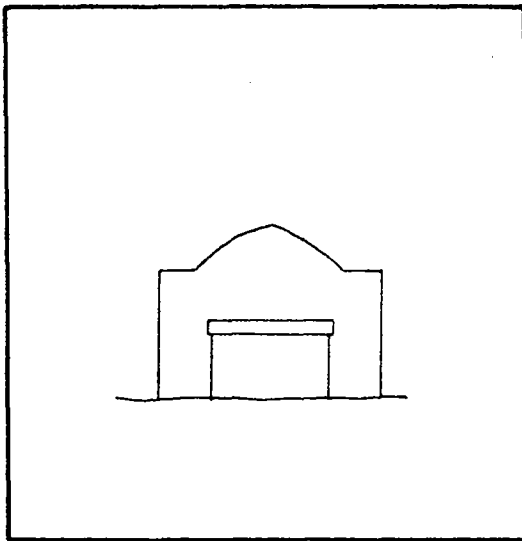
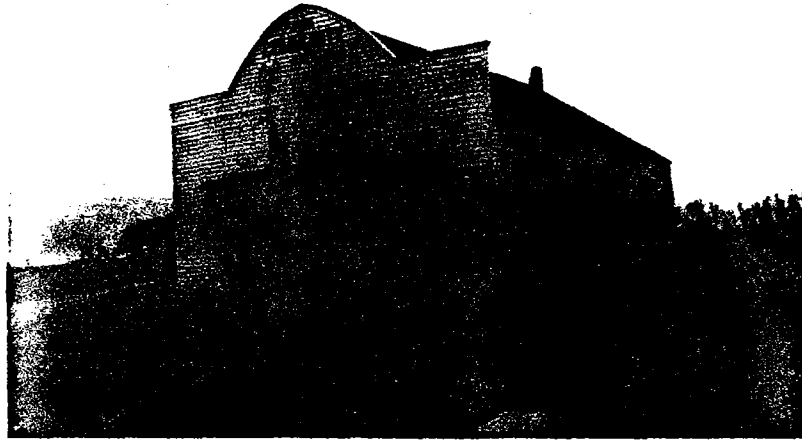
OBJECTS: 0

Significant example of Neo-Gothic architecture executed on a small town level. Local craftsmanship and native stone from the Minnechaduza Creek add to this properties significance.

Historic Context: Government

The contextual topic of Government encompasses the art or science of established government as well as competition between interest groups for leadership of local, state, or national government. Historic buildings which may relate to this topic include most government-related structures necessary to the political operation of communities. Common examples include such institutions as post offices, courthouses, community halls, and fire stations.

Of the twelve properties surveyed under this context, six are potentially eligible to the National Register and are discussed in the Preliminary Inventory. The potentially eligible properties consist of seven buildings and three objects.



NeHBS NUMBER: CE02-3

DATE: 1919

RESOURCE NAME: Brownlee Community Hall

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Government: (04.02)

PROPERTY TYPE: Community Hall (04.1.5.2)

LOCATION: See Brownlee Plat Map

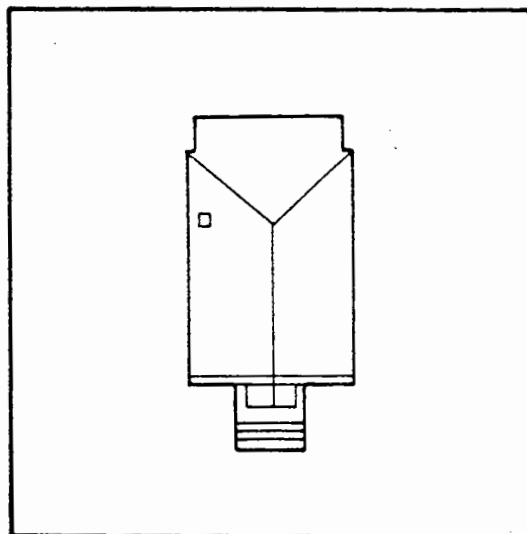
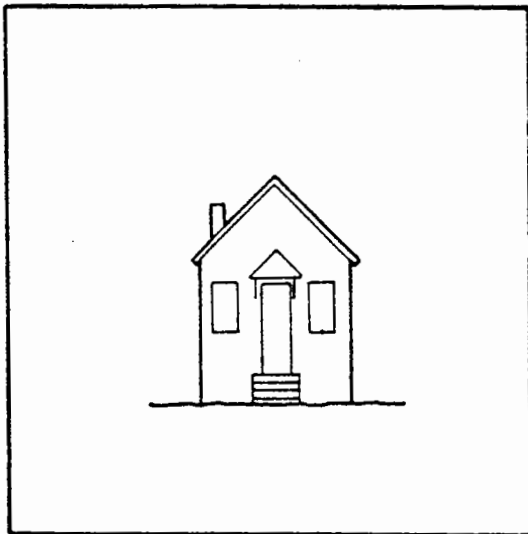
CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS: 1

STRUCTURES: 0

SITES: 0

OBJECTS: 0

Included in the Preliminary Inventory for its role as a meeting place for citizens of Brownlee. This frame building represents a common type in small town development.



NeHBS NUMBER: CE03-6

DATE: c.1934

RESOURCE NAME: Cody Library

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Government: (04.02)

PROPERTY TYPE: Library (04.2.4)

LOCATION: SEC Cherry & Washington Sts, Cody

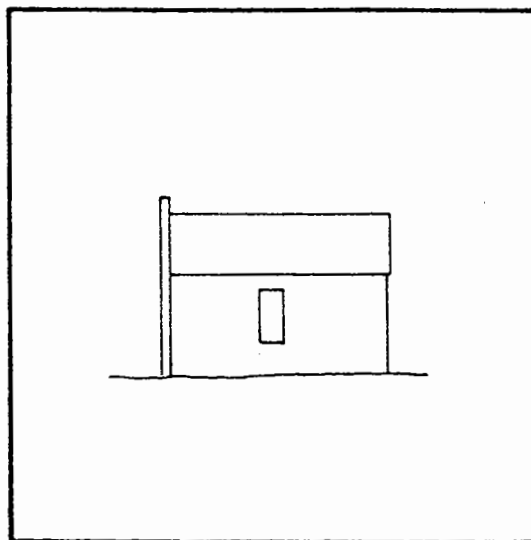
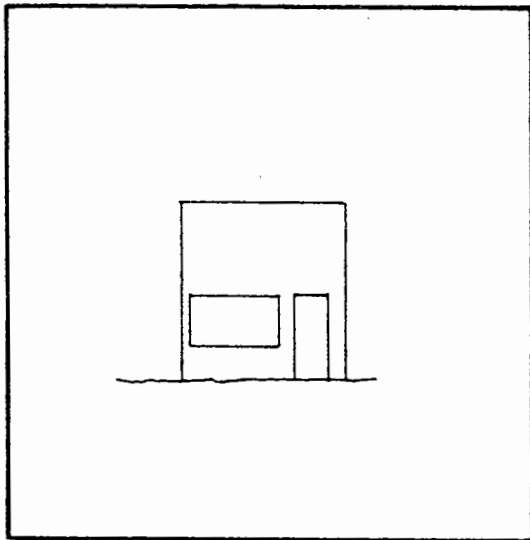
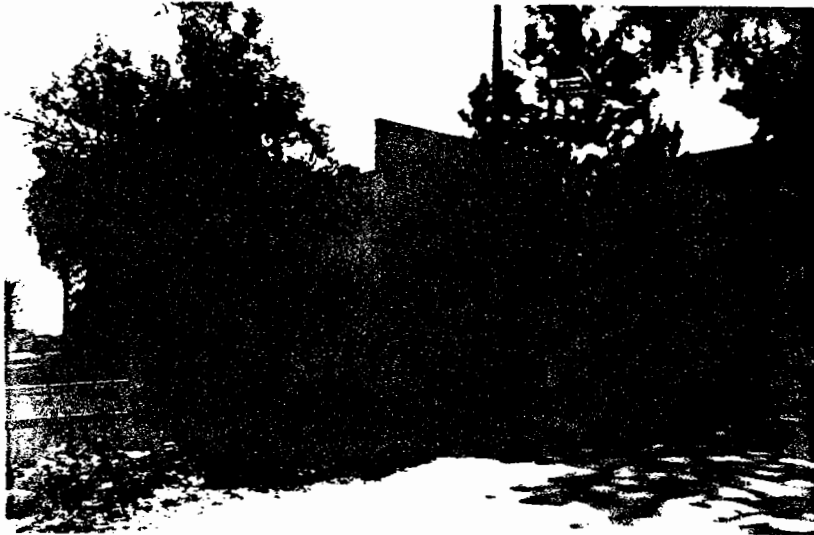
CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS: 1

STRUCTURES: 0

SITES: 0

OBJECTS: 0

Originally built as a library, this WPA building now serves as the town hall. Potentially eligible to the National Register for its stylistic quality and association with the Works Progress Administration.



NeHBS NUMBER: CE09-13

DATE: c.1900

RESOURCE NAME: Kilgore Post Office

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Government: (04.06)

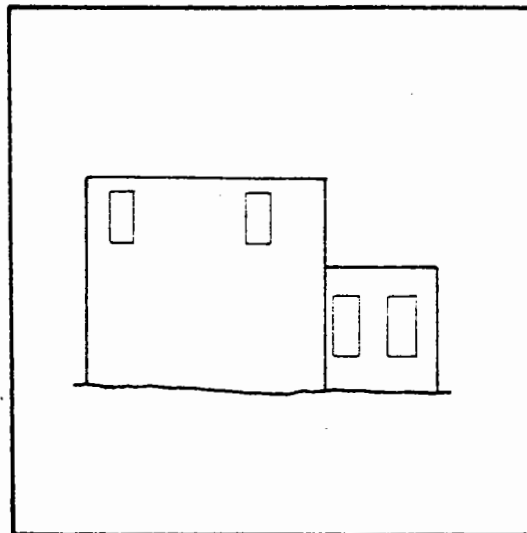
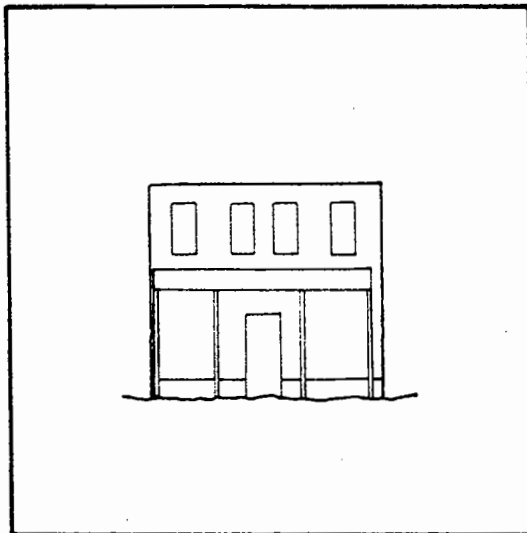
PROPERTY TYPE: Post Office (04.2.3)

LOCATION: E.S. Main bet. Jefferson & Washington Sts, Kilgore

TOTAL CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS: 1 **STRUCTURES:** 0

SITES: 0 **OBJECTS:** 0

This small frame building contributes to Kilgore's original development during the turn of the century and retains a high degree of historic integrity.



NeHBS NUMBER: CE15-18

DATE: 1908

RESOURCE NAME: Woodlake Post Office

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Government: (04.06)

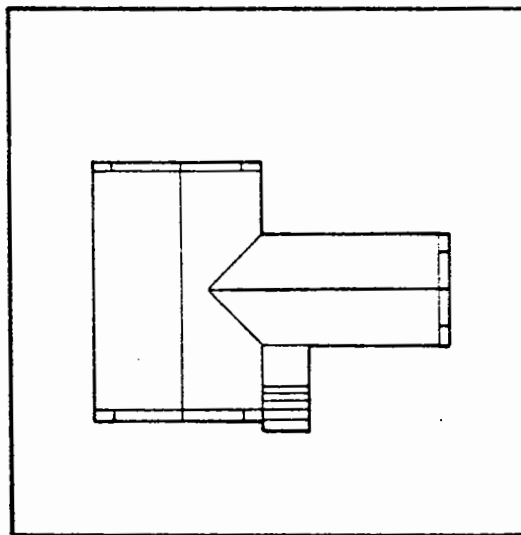
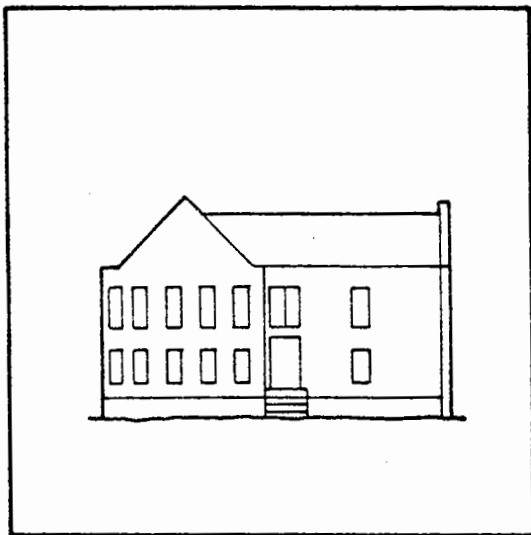
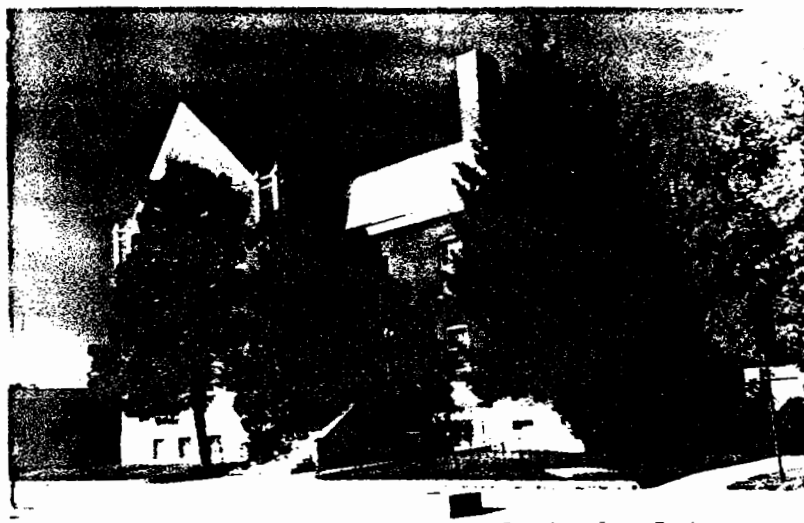
PROPERTY TYPE: Post Office (04.2.3)

LOCATION: ES Main bet. Dexter & Lake Sts, Woodlake

TOTAL CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS: 1 **STRUCTURES:** 0

SITES: 0 **OBJECTS:** 0

This concrete block building was considered potentially significant for its role in the early twentieth-century distribution of postal communications in eastern Cherry County.



NeHBS NUMBER: CE14-89

DATE: 1901

RESOURCE NAME: Cherry County Courthouse

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Government: (04.03)

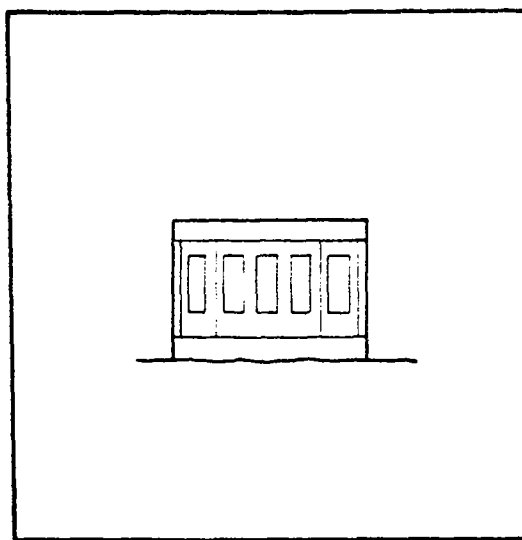
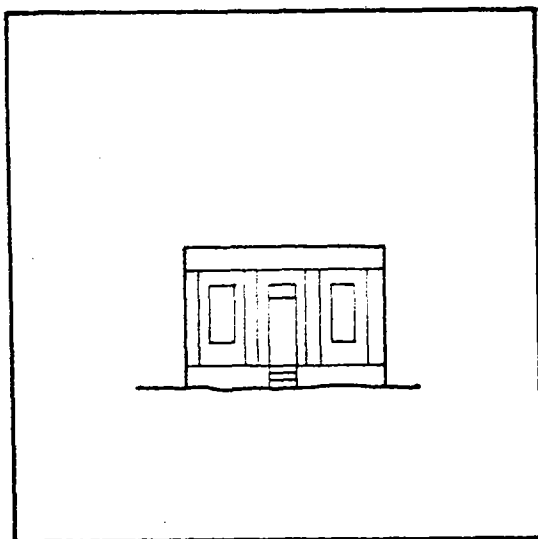
PROPERTY TYPE: Courthouse (04.1.7)

LOCATION: SWC 4th & N Main Sts, Valentine

TOTAL CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS: 2 **STRUCTURES:** 0

SITES: 0 **OBJECTS:** 2

Included in the Preliminary Inventory for its importance as the seat of county-based government and for association with English Gothic Revival stylistic detailing.



NeHBS NUMBER: CE14-90

DATE: 1936

RESOURCE NAME: Valentine Post Office

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Government: (04.06)

PROPERTY TYPE: Post Office (04.2.3)

LOCATION: ES N Main bet. 3rd & 4th Sts, Valentine

TOTAL CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS: 1 **STRUCTURES:** 0

SITES: 0 **OBJECTS:** 0

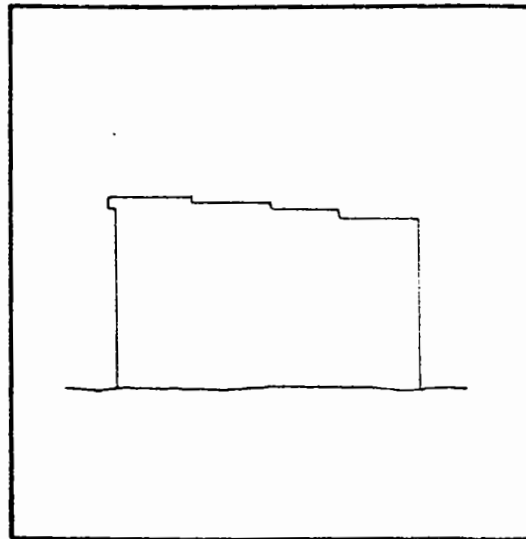
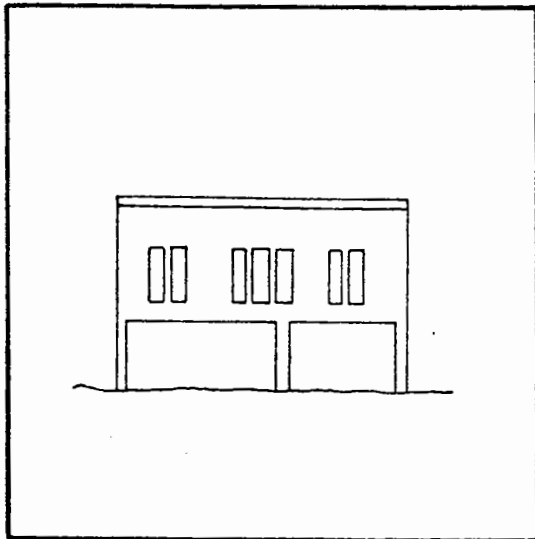
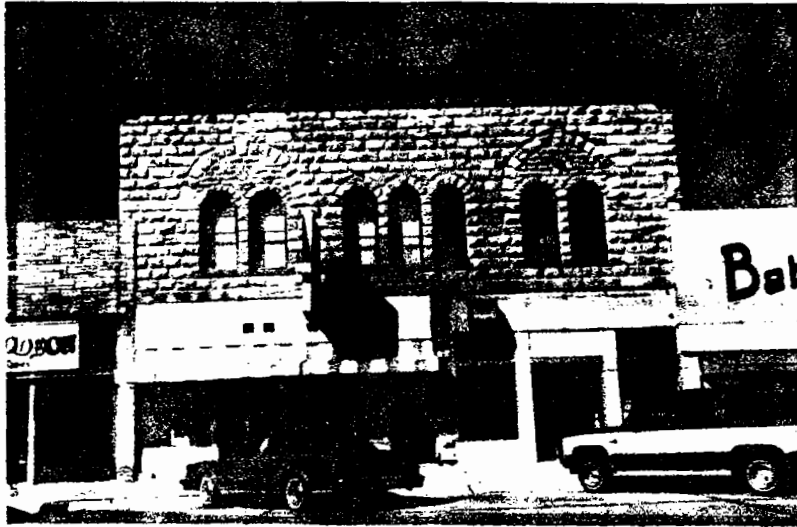
Included in the Preliminary Inventory for association with the Works Progress Administration (WPA) building program. Contains WPA sponsored art murals in foyer. The building is currently used as the Sawyer Memorial Library.

Historic Context: Association

The contextual theme of association refers to the institutionally patterned interaction among people. Association covers a large group of these institutionalized affiliations including, among others; fraternal, service, special interest, trade, political, humanitarian, religious, educational, social, and business organizations.

The Cherry County Historic Buildings Survey recorded one property with relationship to the Association Historic Context. This is the Fraternal Hall building in Valentine (CE14-94). Built in 1901, this building consists of a well-preserved stone false front building and preliminarily judged as potentially eligible for the National Register of Historic Places.

The identification of association buildings was often difficult. The organizations of the smaller Sand Hills communities did not always build a separate structure used solely for their purposes. Instead, they often rented the upper second floor story of an existing "Main Street" commercial building. Association buildings are often only identifiable in larger communities where greater membership and financial resources allowed the construction of separate structures used specifically by the association group. In addition, the continued existence of organizations has usually dictated the updating or "remodeling" of historically-built association buildings.



NeHBS NUMBER: CE14-94

DATE: 1901

RESOURCE NAME: Fraternal Hall

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Association: (05.01)

PROPERTY TYPE: Hall (05.1.1)

LOCATION: WS Main bet. 2nd & 3rd Sts, Valentine

TOTAL CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS: 1 **STRUCTURES:** 0

SITES: 0 **OBJECTS:** 0

Important as a well-preserved Association-related structure and as a primary contributor to the early twentieth-century central business district of Valentine. Constructed from native stone quarried from the nearby Minnechaduza Creek.

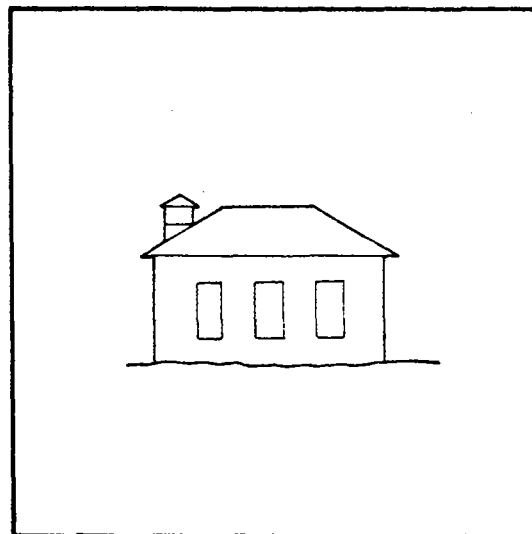
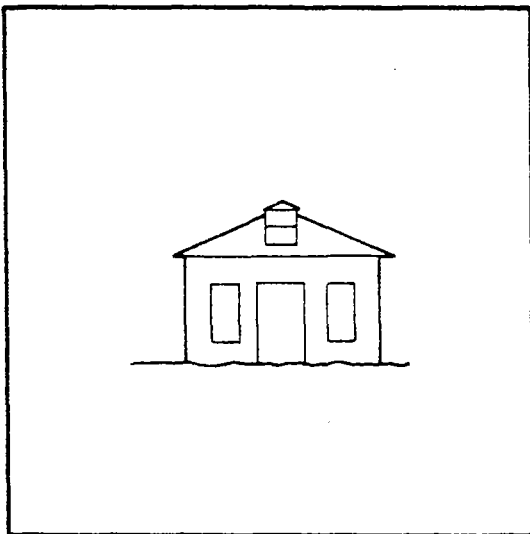
Historic Context: Education

The contextual topic of Education encompasses any act or process which imparts or aids in the acquisition of knowledge. This title is quite self-explanatory with primary emphasis focused upon the components of schooling and enrichment. Historic buildings which fit this context include schools, libraries and museums. Considerations include formal apprenticeship and enculturation; primary, elementary, junior, and senior high schools, colleges and universities; vocational, adult, continuing, specialty and professional.

The Cherry County survey reported a total of 23 education related properties with 13 of these being potentially eligible to the National Register. All of the 23 properties relate to the sub-context of early education which includes elementary and secondary education. Consistent with the pattern established by previous historic buildings survey projects in Nebraska, the school buildings recorded in Cherry County fit into one of two distinct form types. The first type is a simple unadorned Hall-type building usually constructed of frame materials and containing a rectangular one-room plan. The survivors of this type were found predominantly in the rural environs and appear to have been constructed between the years of 1880 and 1910. They are usually one-story in height with a gable-end entry and were protected by a gable or hip roof placed in longitudinal orientation.

The second predominant form type found in the previous Nebraska Historic Buildings Survey projects conducted by Save America's Heritage is the "modern" school building type which consists generally of larger scale masonry buildings

confined primarily to community-based locations. These building types appear to have been built between the years of 1910 and 1930 and usually consist of a raised basement two-story masonry structure occupying the grounds of a single town block. An interesting observation lies in the fact that 12 of the of the 13 potentially eligible properties are of the Hall-type and are located in rural areas. Town institutions had alterations which contributed to their lack of historic integrity. This usually was in the form of altered windows and more critically in side additions. Town schools had an ironic problem in that the historic building still needed to serve its original purpose but also had to accommodate present day demands. Rural schoolhouses were more temporary in that if a larger structure was needed a new building was constructed rather than the old building remodelled. The nature of the frame Hall-type school tended to represent temporary needs. Cost of such structures were minimal compared to the modern, community-based, educational buildings. Out of the 13 properties included in the preliminary inventory, eight are abandoned and testify to the transient nature of rural educational institutions.



NeHBS NUMBER: CE00-56

DATE: c.1895

COMMON NAME: Abandoned School

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Education: (06.01.01)

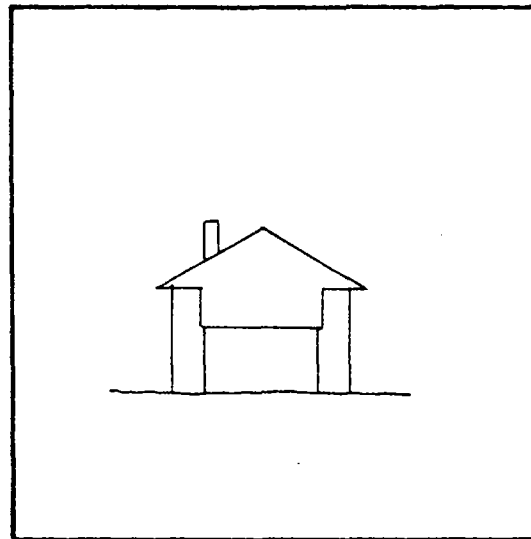
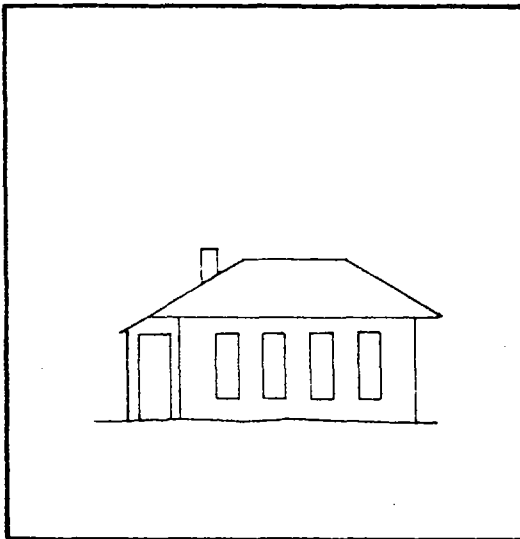
PROPERTY TYPE: Schoolhouse (06.3.1:1)

LOCATION: SW1/4, SE1/4, Sec. 17, T.34N, R.28W

TOTAL CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS: 1 **STRUCTURES:** 0

SITES: 0 **OBJECTS:** 0

A well-preserved example of a late nineteenth-century rural Hall-Type school building. Native stone and skilled craftsmanship also contribute to the significance of this structure.



NeHBS NUMBER: CE00-62

DATE: c.1905

RESOURCE NAME: District #48 School

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Education: (06.01.01)

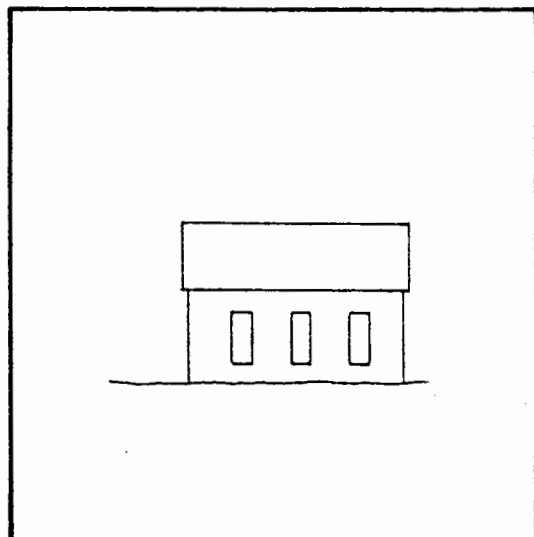
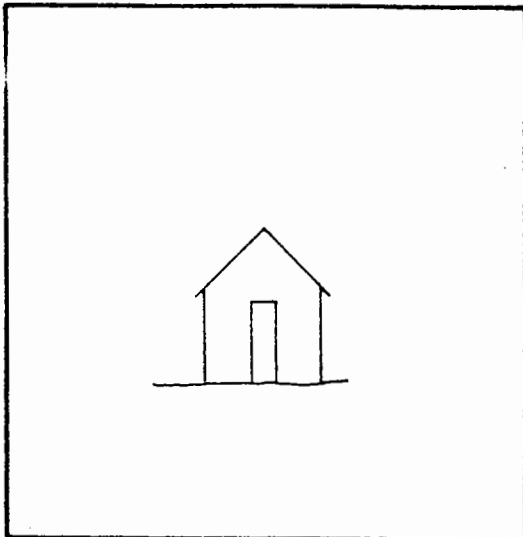
PROPERTY TYPE: Schoolhouse (06.3.1:1)

LOCATION: NW1/4, NW1/4, Sec. 33, T.35N, R.29W

TOTAL CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS: 1 **STRUCTURES:** 0

SITES: 0 **OBJECTS:** 0

Potentially eligible to the National Register as a fine example of an early twentieth-century educational facility in rural Cherry County. Additional significance derived through use of local native materials.



NeHBS NUMBER: CE00-74

DATE: c.1885

RESOURCE NAME: Abandoned ABC School

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Education: (06.01.01)

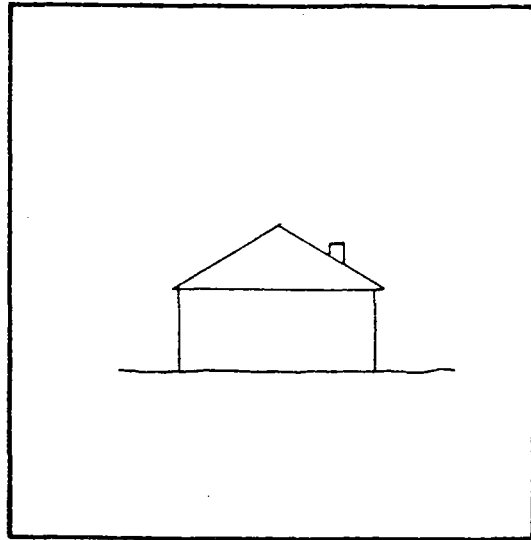
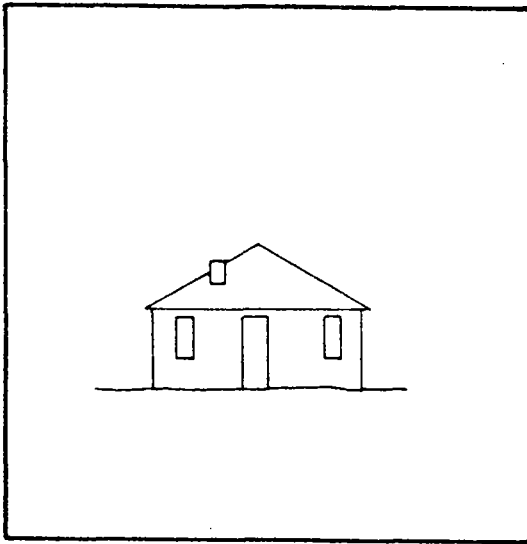
PROPERTY TYPE: Schoolhouse (06.3.1:1)

LOCATION: NW1/4, NW1/4, Sec. 33, T.33N, R.31W

TOTAL CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS: 1 **STRUCTURES:** 0

SITES: 0 **OBJECTS:** 0

This log schoolhouse was constructed by early settlers in the McCann Canyon and is a valuable contribution to the education context of the Sand Hills region.



NeHBS NUMBER: CE00-76

DATE: c.1900

COMMON NAME: Abandoned School

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Education: (06.01.01)

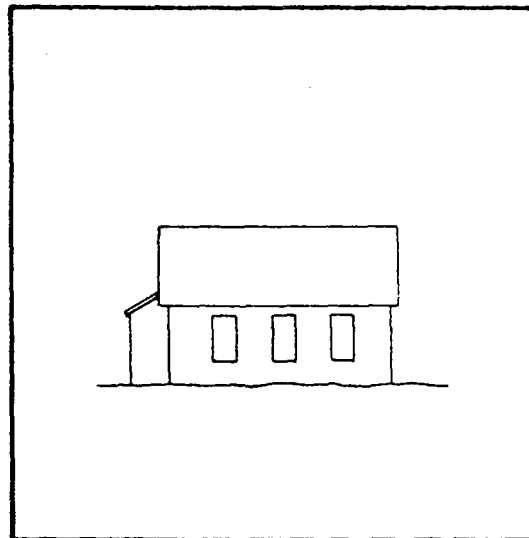
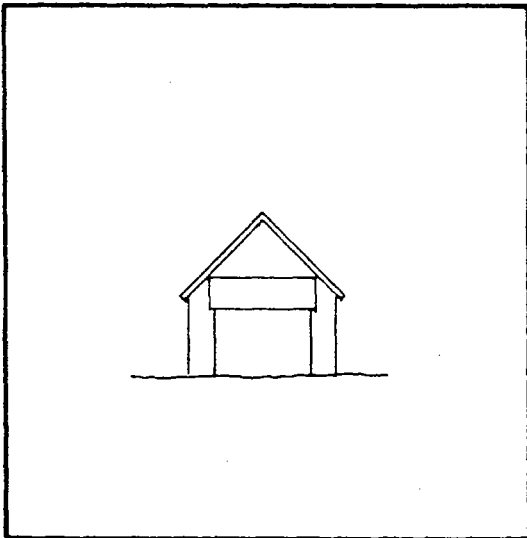
PROPERTY TYPE: Schoolhouse (06.3.1:1)

LOCATION: SW1/4, SW1/4, Sec. 31, T.33N, R.31W

TOTAL CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS: 1 **STRUCTURES:** 0

SITES: 0 **OBJECTS:** 0

Important as a representative example of the rural educational facilities established by early twentieth-century settlers in the Niobrara River Valley.



NeHBS NUMBER: CE00-88

DATE: c.1895

COMMON NAME: Abandoned School

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Education: (06.01.01)

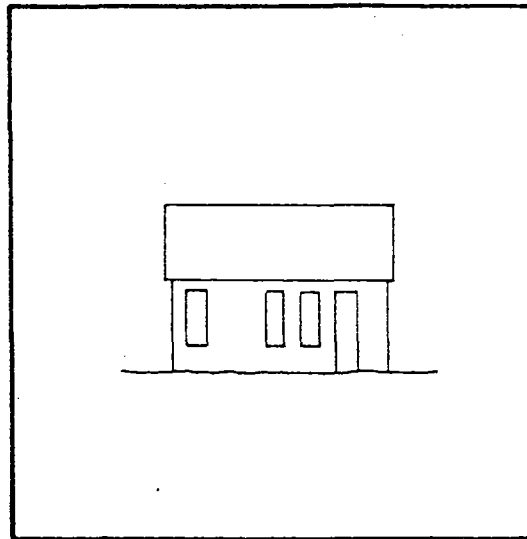
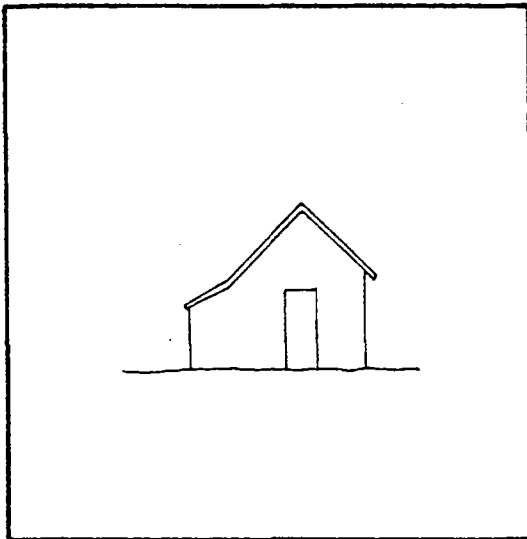
PROPERTY TYPE: Schoolhouse (06.3.1:1)

LOCATION: NE1/4, SE1/4, Sec. 33, T.31N, R.29W

TOTAL CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS: 1 **STRUCTURES:** 0

SITES: 0 **OBJECTS:** 0

Rural-based schoolhouse selected for potential listing based on an association with the establishment of public education in northeast Cherry County.



NeHBS NUMBER: CE00-127

DATE: c.1905

COMMON NAME: School

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Education: (06.01.01)

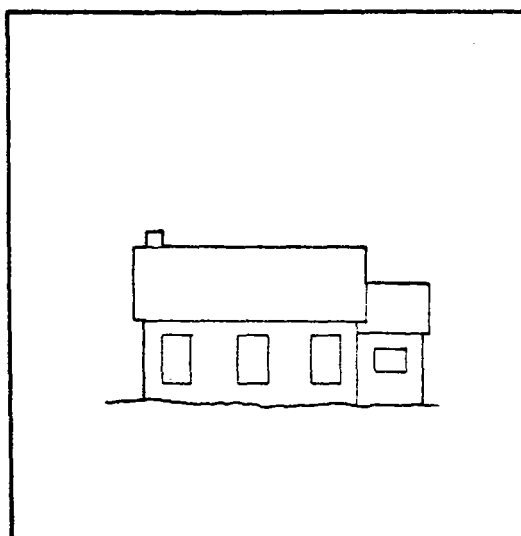
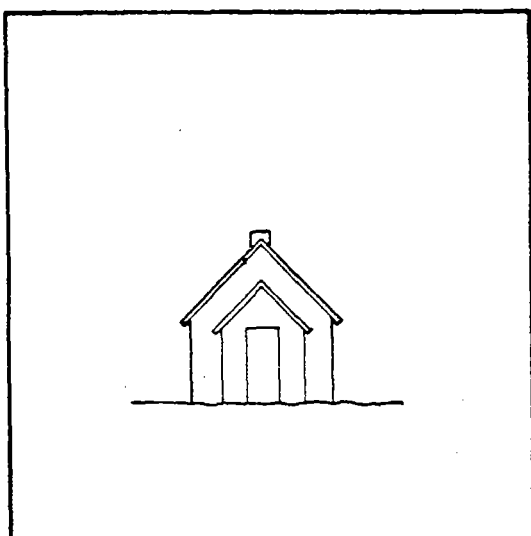
PROPERTY TYPE: Schoolhouse (06.3.1:1)

LOCATION: SE1/4, SW1/4, Sec. 13, T.27N, R.32W

TOTAL CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS: 3 **STRUCTURES:** 0

SITES: 0 **OBJECTS:** 0

This Hall-Type schoolhouse contributes to the history of early rural education in the Sand Hills and retains its historic integrity.



NeHBS NUMBER: CE00-167

DATE: c.1910

COMMON NAME: Abandoned School

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Education: (06.01.01)

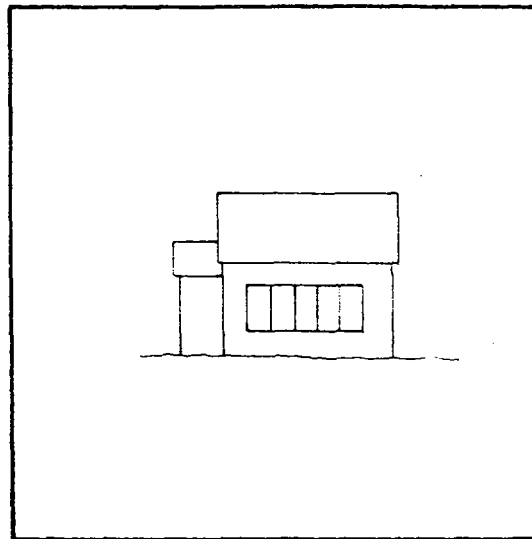
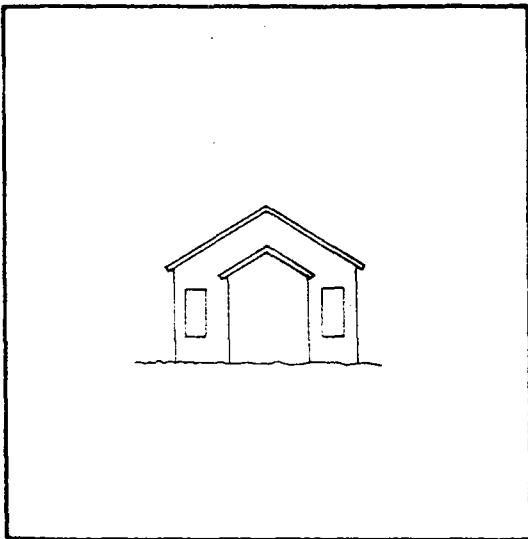
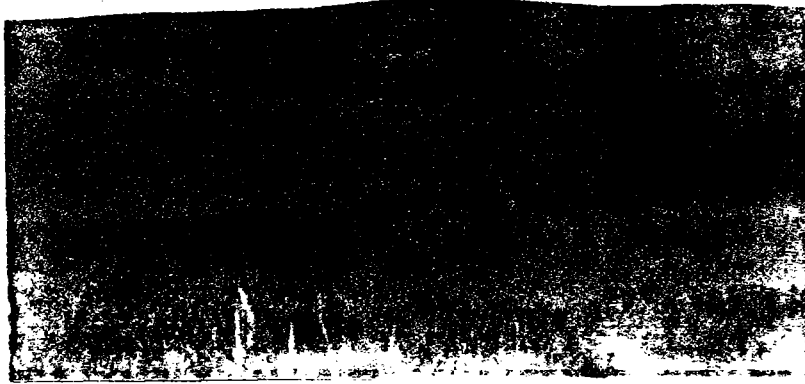
PROPERTY TYPE: Schoolhouse (06.3.1:1)

LOCATION: NE1/4, NW1/4, Sec. 6, T.25N, R.25W

TOTAL CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS: 3 **STRUCTURES:** 0

SITES: 0 **OBJECTS:** 0

This turn of the century, stucco schoolhouse is included in the Preliminary Inventory for its association with rural education in southeast Cherry County.



NeHBS NUMBER: CE00-169

DATE: c.1895

COMMON NAME: Abandoned School

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Education: (06.01.01)

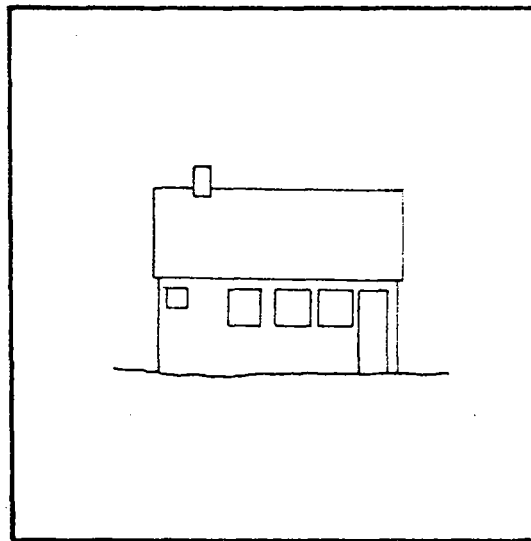
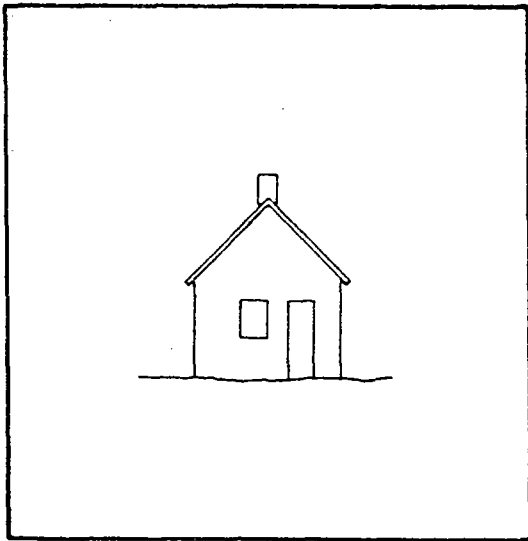
PROPERTY TYPE: Schoolhouse (06.3.1:1)

LOCATION: SW1/4, NE1/4, Sec. 28, T.25N, R.25W

TOTAL CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS: 1 **STRUCTURES:** 0

SITES: 0 **OBJECTS:** 0

Frame Hall-Type school potentially eligible to the National Register for its association to rural education during the early settlement of Cherry County.



NeHBS NUMBER: CE00-173

DATE: c.1920

RESOURCE NAME: District #102 School

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Education: (06.01.01)

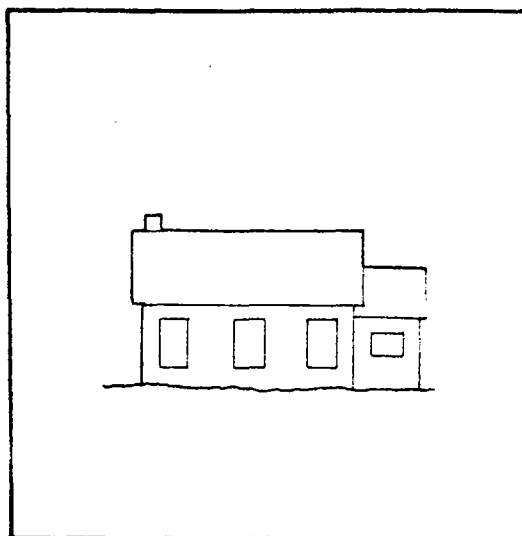
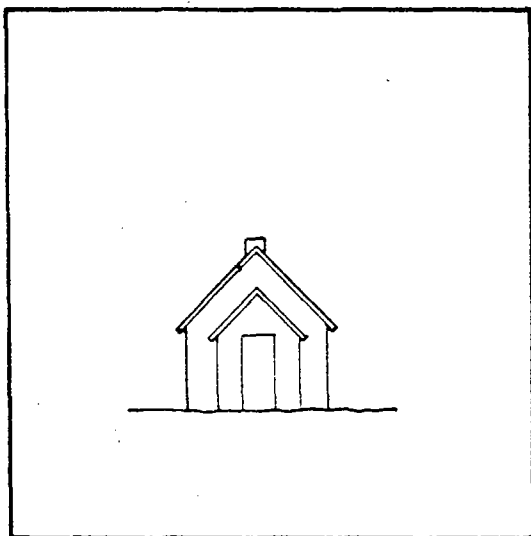
PROPERTY TYPE: Schoolhouse (06.3.1:1)

LOCATION: SE1/4, NE1/4, Sec. 16, T.26N, R.26W

TOTAL CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS: 1 **STRUCTURES:** 0

SITES: 0 **OBJECTS:** 0

One-story stucco Hall-Type schoolhouse important for its association to education and as a significant common rural building type.



NeHBS NUMBER: CE00-183

DATE: c.1910

COMMON NAME: Abandoned School

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Education: (06.01.01)

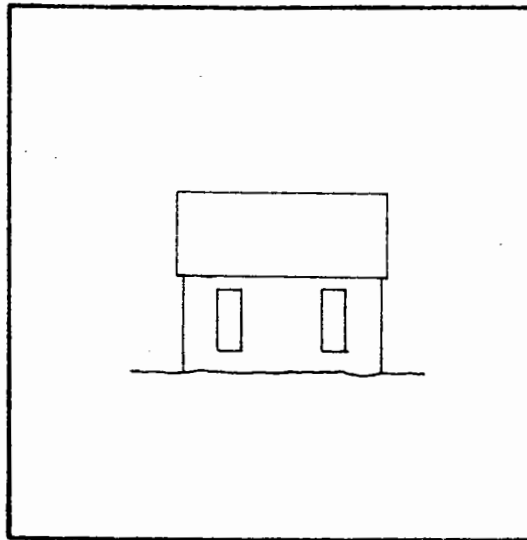
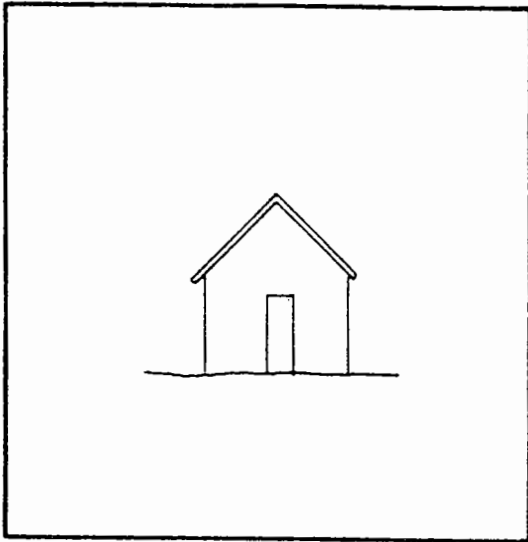
PROPERTY TYPE: Schoolhouse (06.3.1:1)

LOCATION: SW1/4, NE1/4, Sec. 8, T.32N, R.25W

TOTAL CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS: 4 **STRUCTURES:** 0

SITES: 0 **OBJECTS:** 0

This small stucco hall-type schoolhouse is included in the Preliminary Inventory for its association with rural education in northeast Cherry County. Retains a high degree of integrity.



NeHBS NUMBER: CE00-194

DATE: c.1895

COMMON NAME: Abandoned School

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Education: (06.01.01)

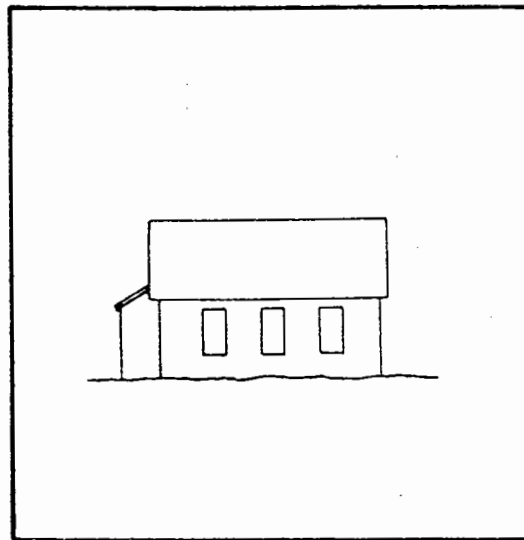
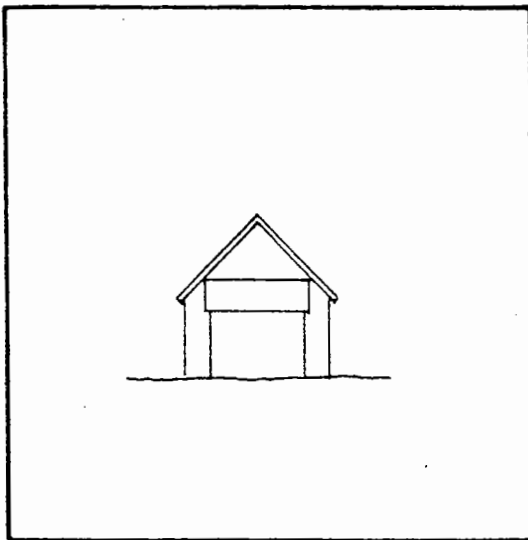
PROPERTY TYPE: Schoolhouse (06.3.1:1)

LOCATION: SE1/4, NW1/4, Sec. 14, T.28N, R.38W

TOTAL CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS: 1 **STRUCTURES:** 0

SITES: 0 **OBJECTS:** 0

Located adjacent to Steverson Lake, this small frame schoolhouse represents the establishment of public education in rural southwest Cherry County.



NeHBS NUMBER: CE00-215

DATE: c.1900

COMMON NAME: Abandoned School

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Education: (06.01.01)

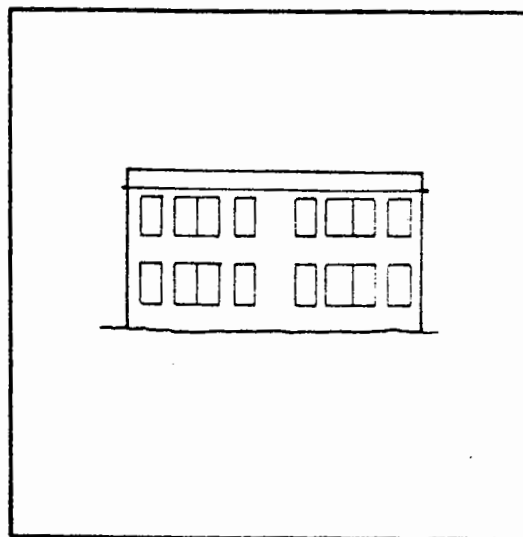
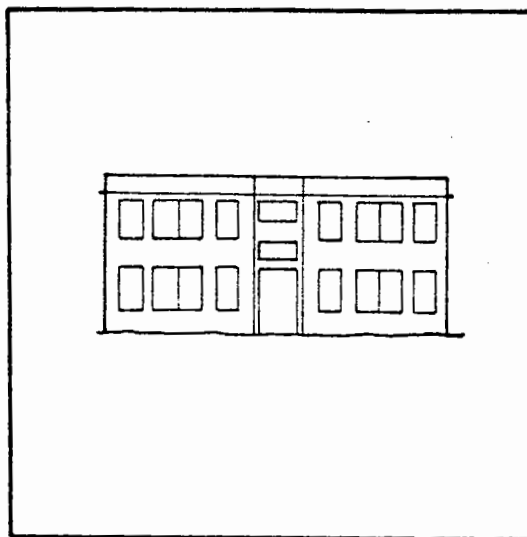
PROPERTY TYPE: Schoolhouse (06.3.1:1)

LOCATION: SW1/4, SW1/4, Sec. 2, T.31N, R.40W

TOTAL CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS: 1 **STRUCTURES:** 0

SITES: 0 **OBJECTS:** 0

One-story frame hall-type schoolhouse important for its contribution to rural education during the early white settlement of northwest Cherry County.



NeHBS NUMBER: CE15-41

DATE: 1929

RESOURCE NAME: Wood Lake High School

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Education (06.01.01)

PROPERTY TYPE: High Schools (06.3.4)

LOCATION: E.S. Chestnut bet. State & Dexter Sts., Wood Lake

TOTAL CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS: 1 **STRUCTURES:** 0

SITES: 0 **OBJECTS:** 0

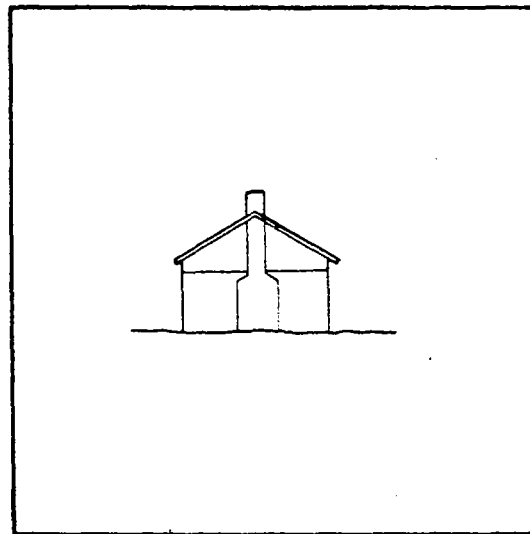
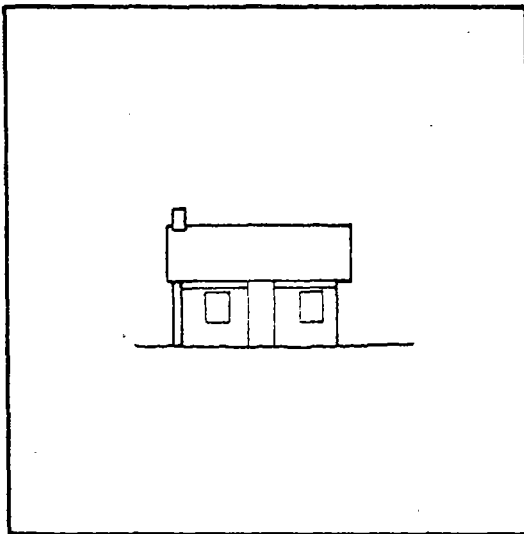
Selected as a well-preserved example of the "modern" type school representative of the twentieth-century advancement in educational facilities.

HISTORICAL CONTEXT: Diversion

The context of diversion encompasses any activity which relaxes and amuses. Considerations include recreation and entertainment; sport and travel; participating and spectating. A broad range of properties fall under this context from cultural centers and theatres to nightclubs and houses of ill-repute.

The reconnaissance survey of Cherry County reported a total of three properties under the context of diversion. Included are the Red Deer Gun Club (CE00-96), Gilman Park (CE14-80), and the Sandhills Drive-In (CE14-139). All of these properties have been preliminarilly judged as potentially eligible for National Register listing and have been included in the Preliminary Inventory. Located on the north end of town, Gilman Park (commonly referred to as the Valentine City Park) consists of a well maintained site with a variety of mature trees and bushes. The park is bisected by the Minnechaduza Creek. Historic buildings consist of two frame outhouses, one frame pavilion, and a Craftsman Style concession/storage building.

The Sandhills Drive-In, the second property included in the Preliminary Inventory, is located just north of Highway 20 on the west edge of Valentine. Dominating the site is a large movie screen which faces a fan-shaped parking lot. Although this property lacks historic integrity, Save America's Heritage understands the importance of this increasingly rare property type to Nebraska history and has therefore included the structure in the following Preliminary Inventory.



NeHBS NUMBER: CE14-80

DATE: c.1930

RESOURCE NAME: Gilman Park

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Diversion: (07.06)

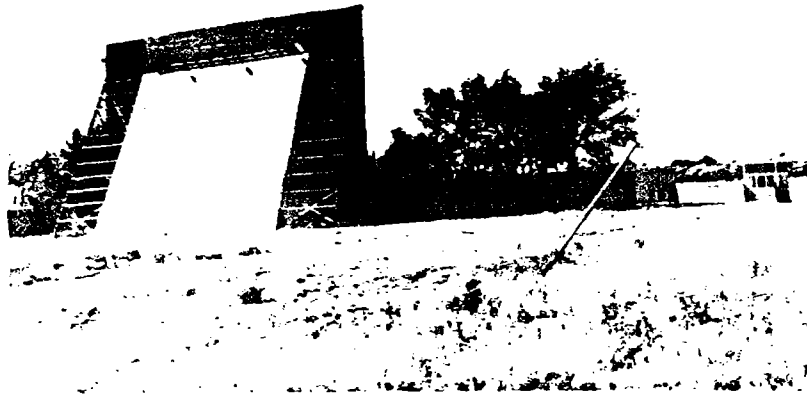
PROPERTY TYPE: Park (07.5.1)

LOCATION: ES Main, 2 blocks N of 8th St., Valentine

TOTAL CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS: 4 **STRUCTURES:** 0

SITES: 1 **OBJECTS:** 0

Well maintained park potentially eligible to the National Register under the context of Diversion. Contributes to the historic fabric and present integrity of Valentine.



NeHBS NUMBER: CE14-139

DATE: c.1950

COMMON NAME: Sandhills Drive-In

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Diversion: (07.07)

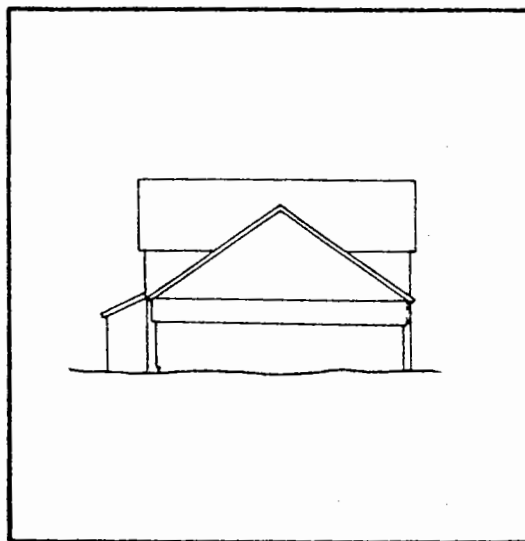
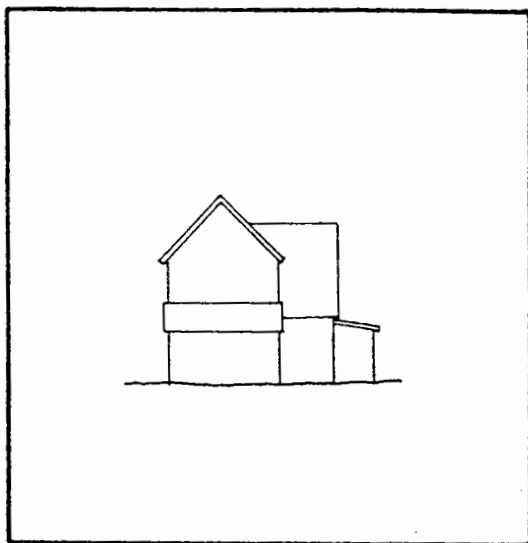
PROPERTY TYPE: Drive-In Theater (07.1.6)

LOCATION: NWC Thacher St & Hwy 20, Valentine

TOTAL CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS: 1 **STRUCTURES:** 1

SITES: 0 **OBJECTS:** 0

The Sandhills Drive-in reflects the popularity of both motion pictures and automobiles. Noteworthy as a rapidly disappearing property type and as a historical symbol of past trends.



NeHBS NUMBER: CE00-96

DATE: 1914

RESOURCE NAME: Red Deer Gun Club

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Diversion (07.06)

PROPERTY TYPE: Unassigned

LOCATION: SW 1/4, NE 1/4, Sec. 17, T 30 N, R 27 W

TOTAL CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS: 1 STRUCTURES: 0

SITES: 0 OBJECTS: 0

Included in the Preliminary Inventory as a historic representative of early twentieth-century sports and recreation in the rural environs of eastern Cherry County.

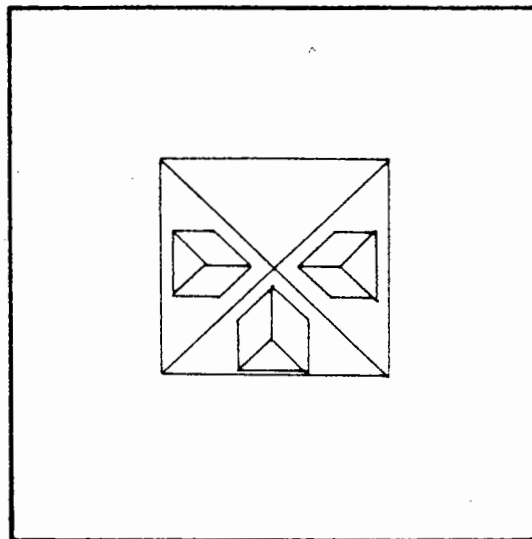
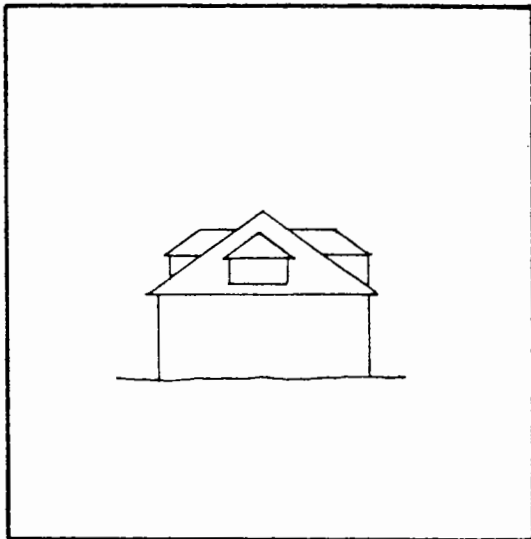
Historic Context: Agriculture

Cherry County lies in the geographic zone known as the Sand Hills. This area is unique to Nebraska and is composed of hilly land of low to high dunes, stabilized by grasses. Historically, the nature of this sandy region has been unsuitable for the cultivation of crops. Instead, the sandhills region has become an area devoted to range livestock production. Most land has remained uncultivated and serves as grass-covered rangeland for cattle. The context of Agriculture was a primary contributor to the historic settlement of Cherry County. With a total of 153 agriculture-related properties surveyed, the Historic Context of Agriculture accounts for 30 percent of the properties recorded by the Historic Buildings Survey of Cherry County. These 153 properties included 790 contributing buildings, one contributing site, 16 contributing structures, and 220 contributing objects.

The ranches of this region play an important part in the history of the Sand Hills. The cattle-raising industry was a primary factor in the settlement and economic development of Cherry County during the late nineteenth and early twentieth-century. Not surprisingly, the vast majority of land in this county has been reserved for the grazing of cattle. The majority of ranches in this area contain the basic buildings necessary for domestic living and cattle production. Typical historic ranch buildings include the main living quarters, hay/horse and cattle barns, granaries, cribs, implement sheds, loafing sheds, stock pens, tool sheds, chicken houses, cellars and storage buildings. Another important building found on the historic cattle ranches was the bunkhouse.

These buildings were typically one story gable roof structures sheathed in clapboard or stucco. Many of the more prosperous ranches tended to exhibit modern changes made to the physical components of the ranch. Most noticeably were the alterations made to the main house or the construction of a new main house.

The Preliminary Inventory for the Historic Context of Agriculture in Cherry County is comprised of 27 total properties. This number represents eighteen percent of the 153 agriculture-related properties recorded by the Historic Buildings Survey of Cherry County. A breakdown of the 27 Potentially Eligible properties shows 166 contributing buildings, one contributing site, three contributing structures, and 59 contributing objects. In addition, six ranches have been selected for Second Priority status.



NeHBS NUMBER: CE00-30

DATE: c.1915

RESOURCE NAME: Marvin Metzger Ranch

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Agriculture: (08.08)

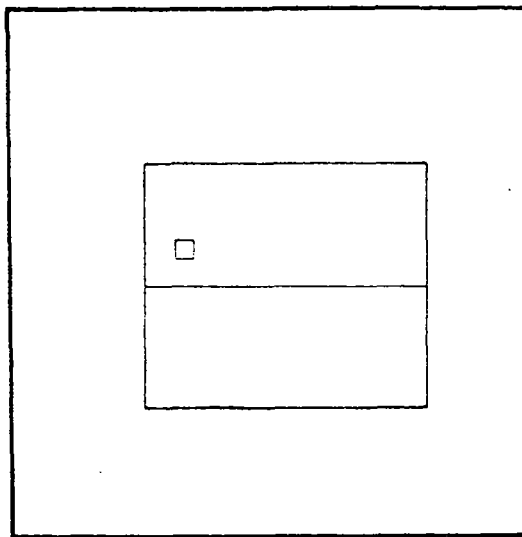
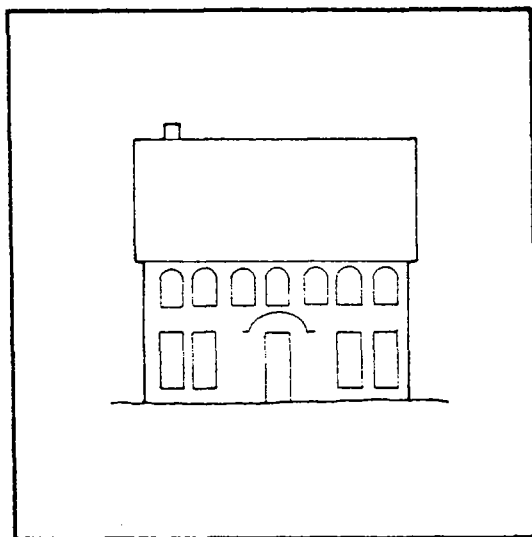
PROPERTY TYPE: Ranch (08.1)

LOCATION: NE1/4, SW1/4, Sec. 30, T.35N, R.38W

TOTAL CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS: 6 **STRUCTURES:** 0

SITES: 0 **OBJECTS:** 0

Potentially significant for association with the historic context of Sand Hills Range Livestock Production.



NeHBS NUMBER: CE00-33

DATE: 1888

RESOURCE NAME: Davis Ranch

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Agriculture: (08.08)

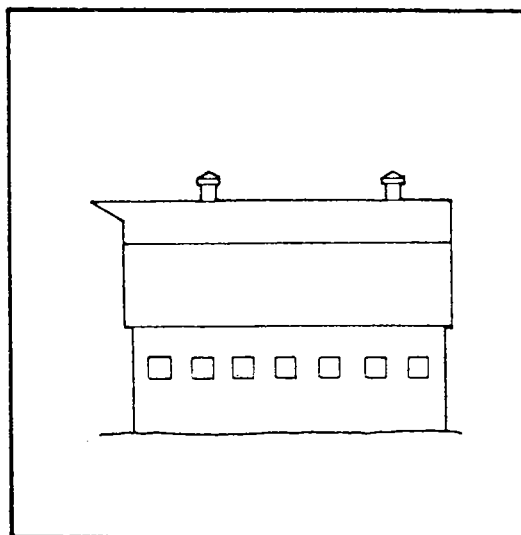
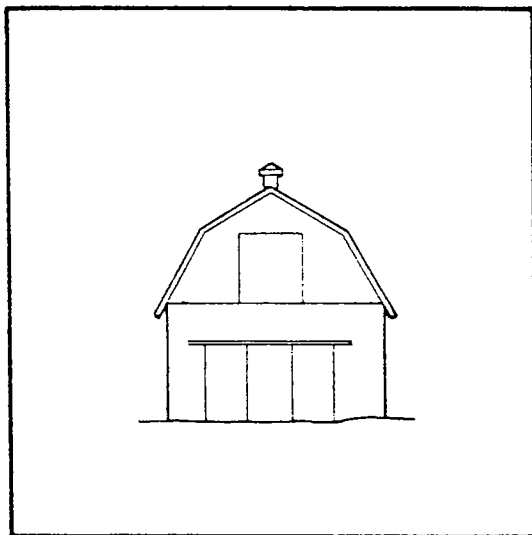
PROPERTY TYPE: Ranch (08.1)

LOCATION: NW1/4, NW1/4, Sec. 32, T.26N, R.38W

TOTAL CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS: 9 STRUCTURES: 0

SITES: 0 OBJECTS: 3

Preliminarily identified as a significant example of Sand Hills Range Livestock Production. The Davis Ranch consists of a well maintained collection of ranch buildings and exhibits a high degree of historic integrity.



NeHBS NUMBER: CE00-69

DATE: c. 1915

RESOURCE NAME: James Beed Ranch

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Agriculture: (08.08)

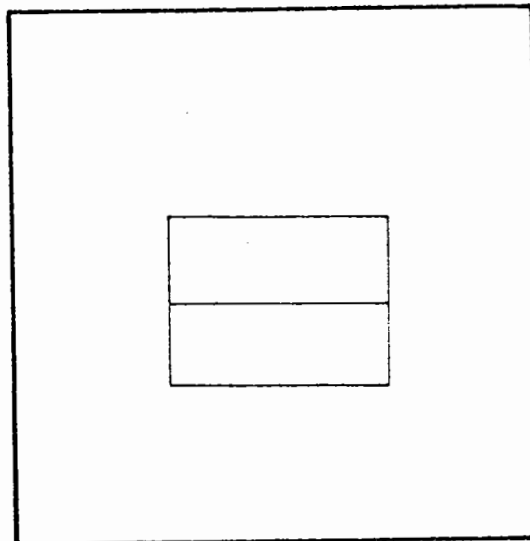
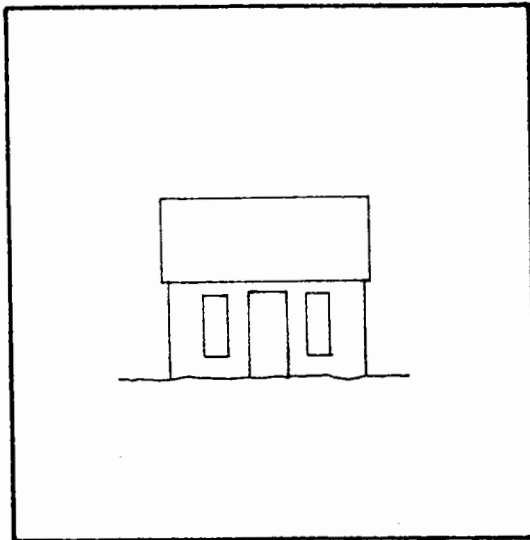
PROPERTY TYPE: Ranch (08.1)

LOCATION: SW1/4, SE1/4, Sec. 29, R.35N, T.30W

TOTAL CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS: 1 STRUCTURES: 0

SITES: 0 OBJECTS: 0

Chosen primarily for the large concrete barn which dominates the ranch.
Significant as a representative of large scale ranching operations.



NeHBS NUMBER: CE00-72

DATE: c. 1906

COMMON NAME: Joe Kudelke Ranch

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Agriculture: (08.08)

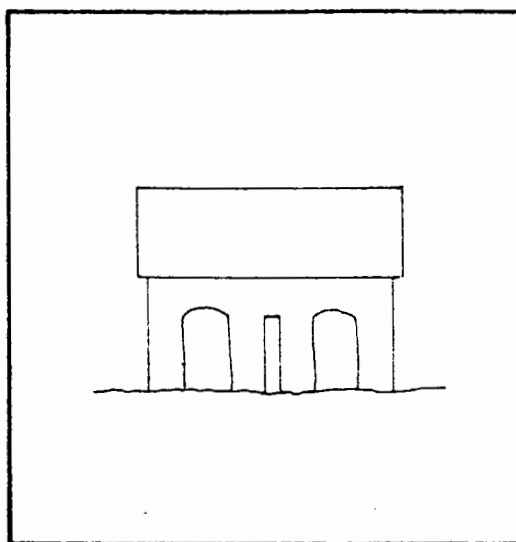
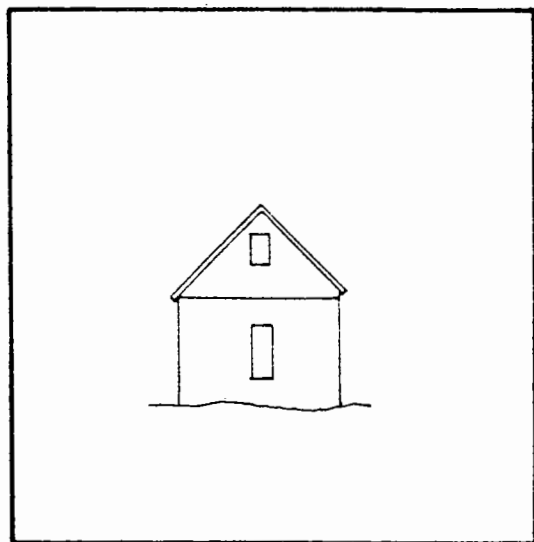
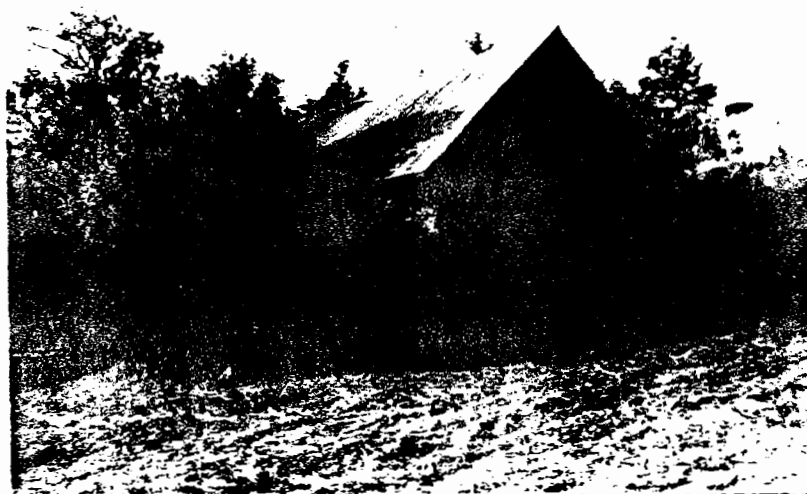
PROPERTY TYPE: Ranch (08.1)

LOCATION: NW1/4, NE1/4, Sec. 35, T.32N, R. 32W

TOTAL CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS: 12 STRUCTURES: 0

SITES: 0 OBJECTS: 1

This property contains 12 extant buildings of original character and is associated with settlement in the Niobrara River Valley.



NeHBS NUMBER: CE00-74

DATE: c.1885

RESOURCE NAME: McCann Ranch

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Agriculture: (08.08)

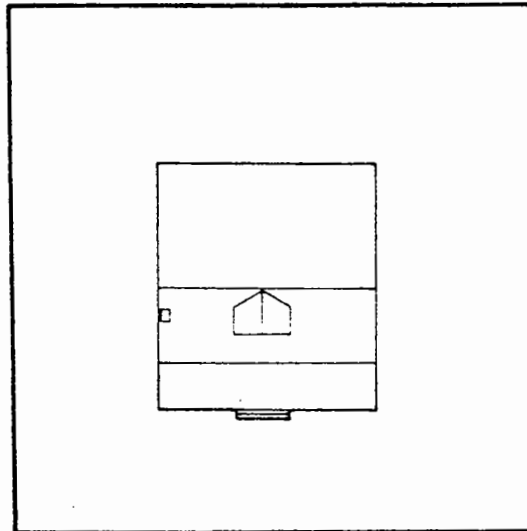
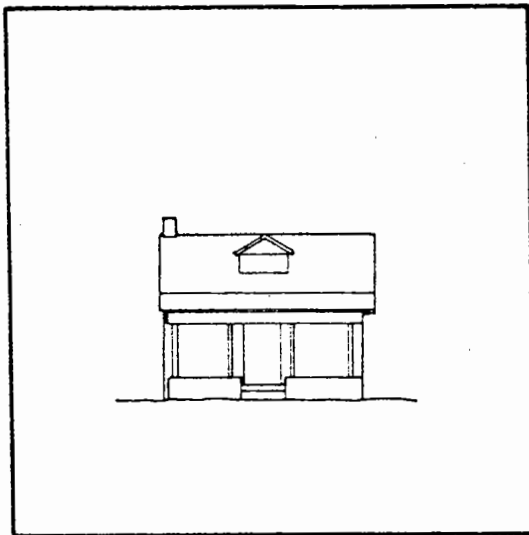
PROPERTY TYPE: Ranch (08.1)

LOCATION: NW1/4, NW1/4, SEC. 33, T.33N, R.31W

TOTAL CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS: 9 **STRUCTURES:** 1

SITES: 0 **OBJECTS:** 2

Potentially eligible to the National Register as a late nineteenth-century example of ranching in the Niobrara River Valley. Dugout, stone barn, and log "ABC" school contribute to the importance of this enclave of historic buildings.



NeHBS NUMBER: CE00-83

DATE: c.1925

COMMON NAME: Ranch

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Agriculture: (08.08)

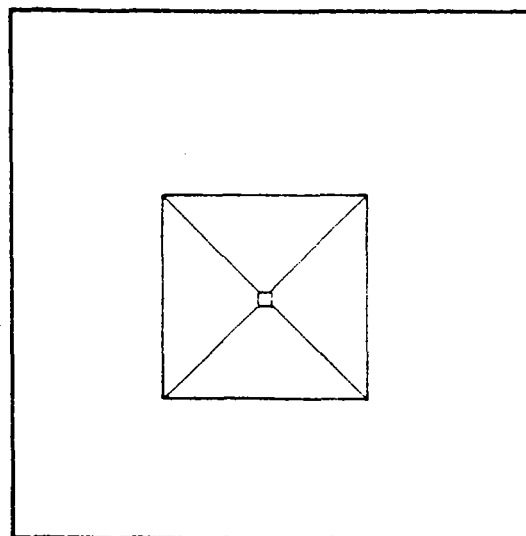
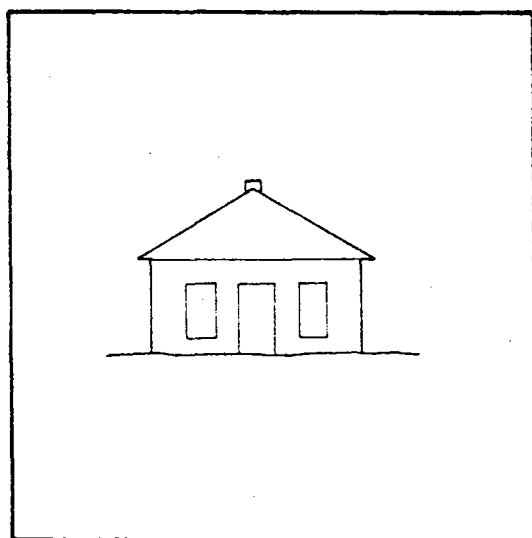
PROPERTY TYPE: Ranch (08.1)

LOCATION: SW1/4, NW1/4, Sec. 15, T.33N, R.30W

TOTAL CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS: 7 STRUCTURES: 0

SITES: 0 OBJECTS: 2

Identified as a significant example of a Sand Hills Range Livestock Production property. House associated with numerically significant Supratype 20.



NeHBS NUMBER: CE00-91

DATE: 1889

COMMON NAME: Abandoned Ranch

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Agriculture: (08.08)

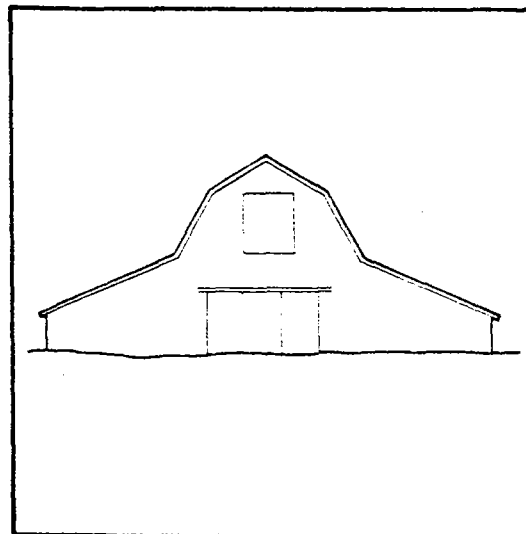
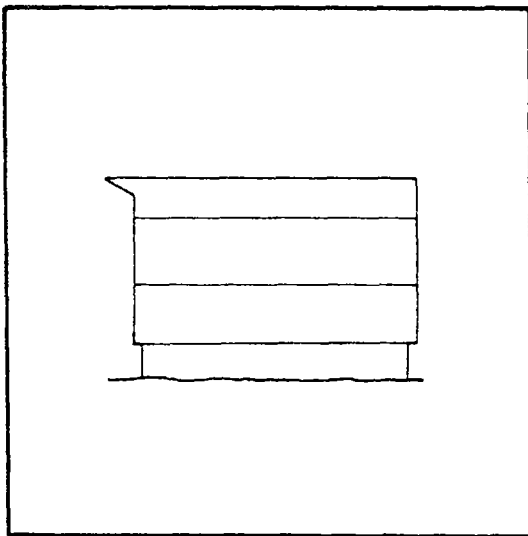
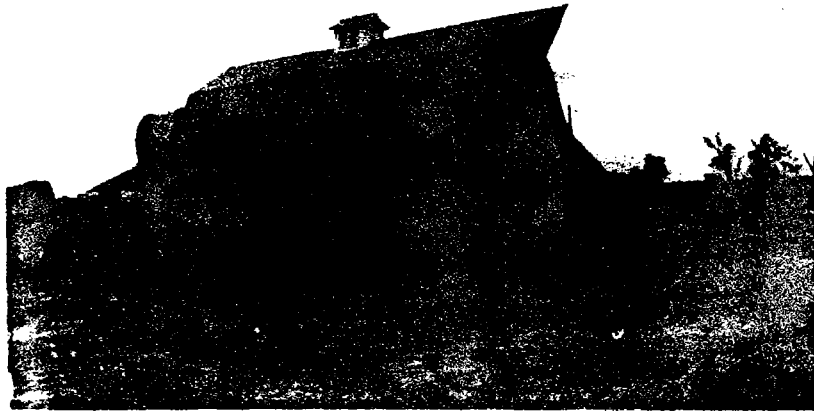
PROPERTY TYPE: Ranch (08.1)

LOCATION: SW1/4, NE1/4, Sec. 6, T.30N, R.28W

TOTAL CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS: 3 STRUCTURES: 0

SITES: 0 OBJECTS: 0

Despite deterioration, this former homestead property was judged potentially significant for the presence of a one-story square-shaped house constructed of native rock materials.



NeHBS NUMBER: CE00-95

DATE: 1884

RESOURCE NAME: Red Deer Ranch

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Agriculture: (08.08)

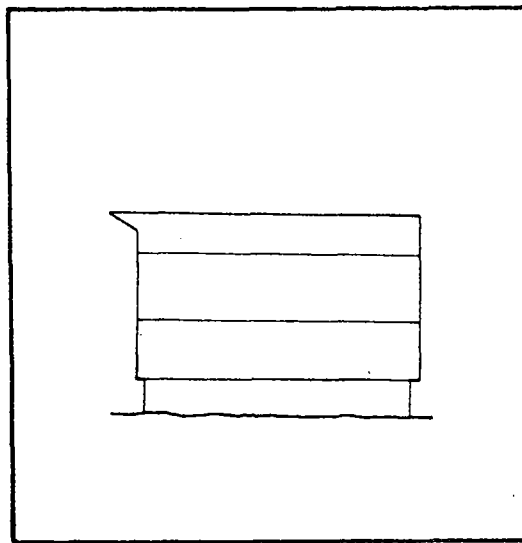
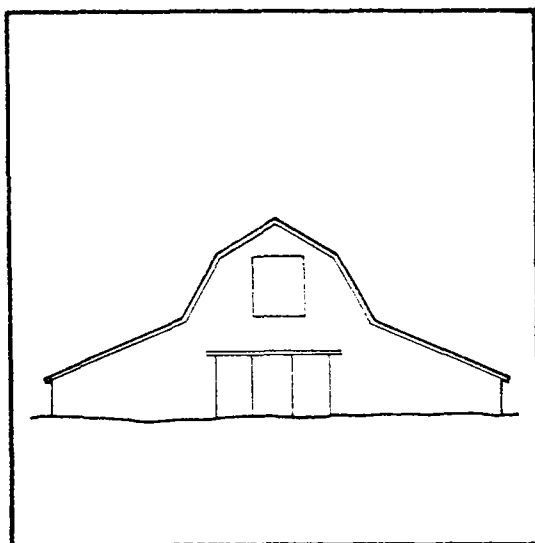
PROPERTY TYPE: Ranch (08.1)

LOCATION: SE1/4, SE1/4, Sec. 16, T.30n, R.27W

TOTAL CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS: 16 **STRUCTURES:** 0

SITES: 0 **OBJECTS:** 0

The Red Deer Ranch was preliminarily identified as a significant example of Sand Hills Range Livestock Production. The property contains a large collection of well-preserved domestic and cattle producing buildings .



NeHBS NUMBER: CE00-101

DATE: c.1915

RESOURCE NAME: Hamaker "Lazy H Bar" Ranch (Aban.)

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Agriculture: (08.08)

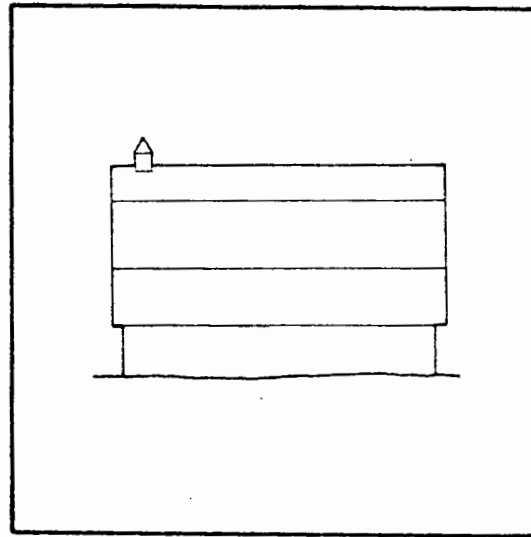
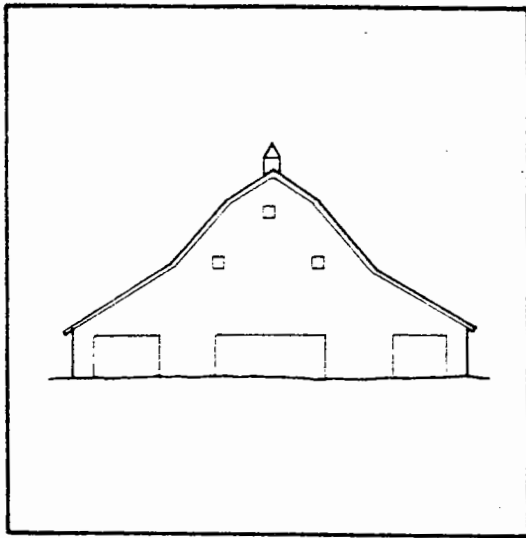
PROPERTY TYPE: Ranch (08.1)

LOCATION: NE1/4, SE1/4, Sec. 15, T.30N, R.26W

TOTAL CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS: 3 STRUCTURES: 0

SITES: 0 OBJECTS: 0

The Lazy H Bar Ranch was included in the Preliminary Inventory due to the presence of the large cattle barn indicative of the early twentieth-century prosperity of the Sand Hills cattle industry.



NeHBS NUMBER: CE00-102

DATE: c.1929

RESOURCE NAME: Schlueter Ranch

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Agriculture: (08.08)

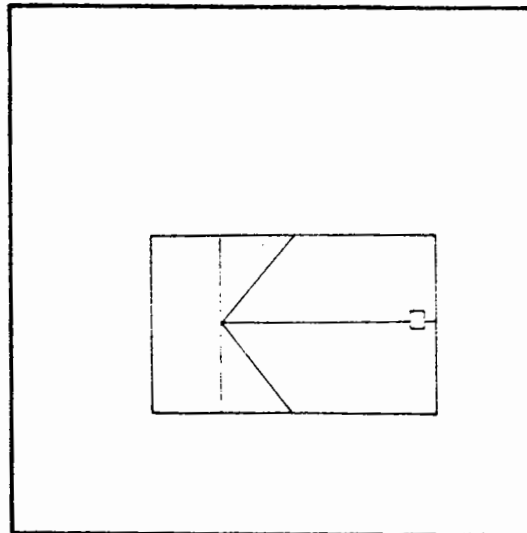
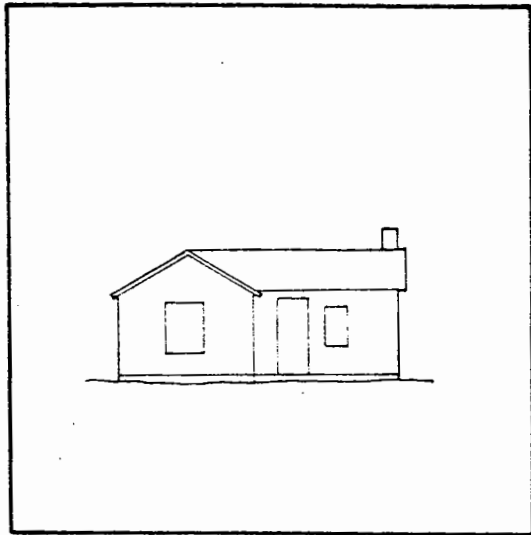
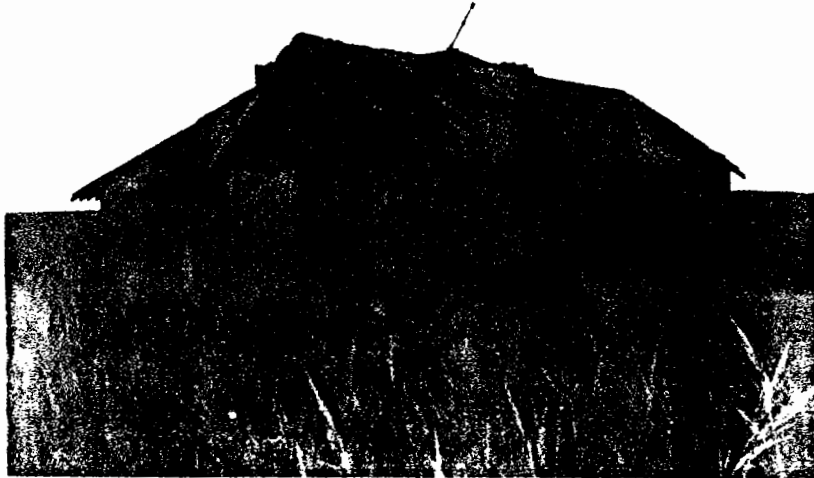
PROPERTY TYPE: Ranch (08.1)

LOCATION: SW1/4, SE1/4, Sec. 13, T.29N, R.26W

TOTAL CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS: 1 STRUCTURES: 0

SITES: 0 OBJECTS: 0

Included in the Preliminary Inventory for its association to Sand Hills Range Livestock Production. Property was homesteaded in 1873 by Albert & Mathilda Schlueter.



NeHBS NUMBER: CE00-107

DATE: c.1895

RESOURCE NAME: Potter Homestead (Abandoned)

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Agriculture: (08.08)

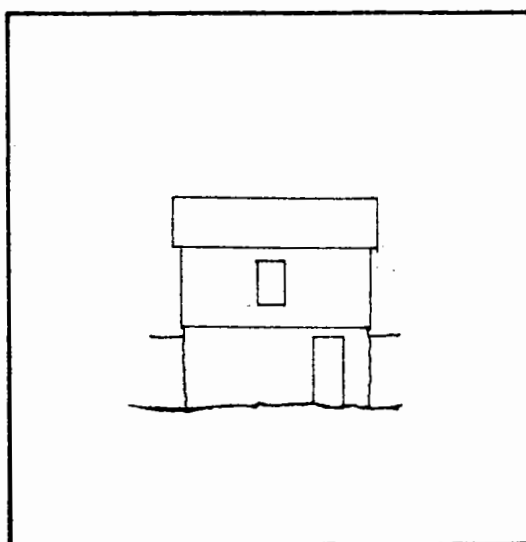
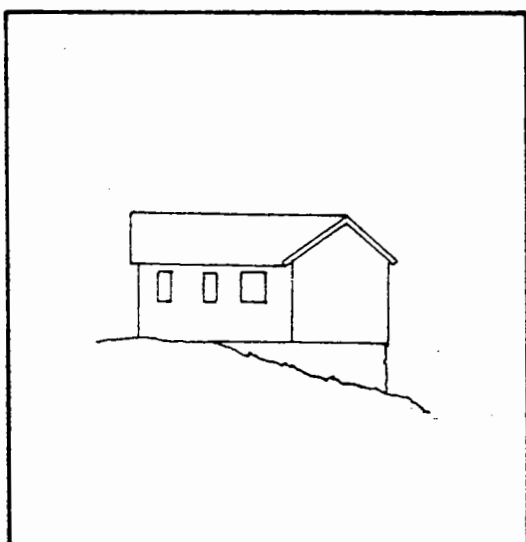
PROPERTY TYPE: Ranch (08.1)

LOCATION: SW1/4, NE1/4, Sec. 5, T.32N, R.28W

TOTAL CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS: 2 STRUCTURES: 0

SITES: 0 OBJECTS: 3

Early example of small-scale homestead built of native rock materials. The ranch exhibits original characteristics but exists in a deteriorated state.



NeHBS NUMBER: CE00-115

DATE: 1906

RESOURCE NAME: Wobig Ranch

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Agriculture: (08.08)

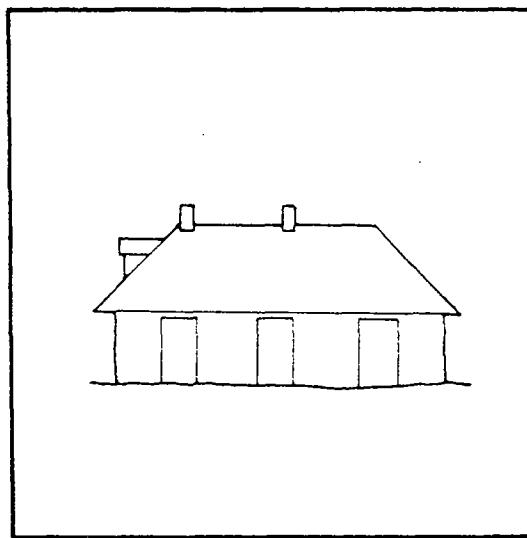
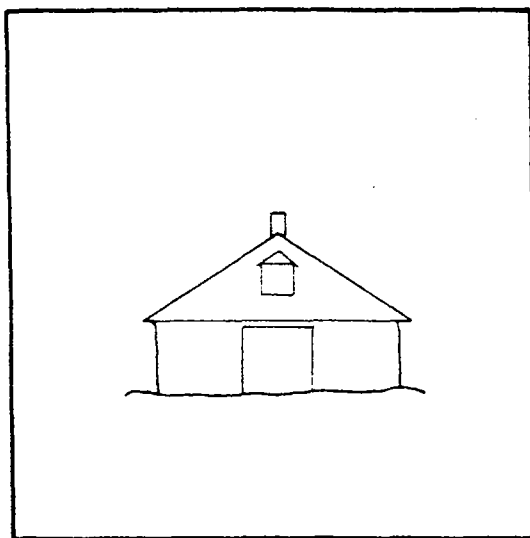
PROPERTY TYPE: Ranch (08.1)

LOCATION: NE1/4, SW1/4, Sec. 24, T.33N, R.34W

TOTAL CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS: 4 STRUCTURES: 0

SITES: 0 OBJECTS: 0

One-story frame house with banked rock foundation situated on an early twentieth-century settlement property located in the Niobrara River Valley.



NeHBS NUMBER: CE00-128

DATE: c.1908

RESOURCE NAME: Dr. Rollin Roth Ranch

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Agriculture: (08.08), Service: (15.03)

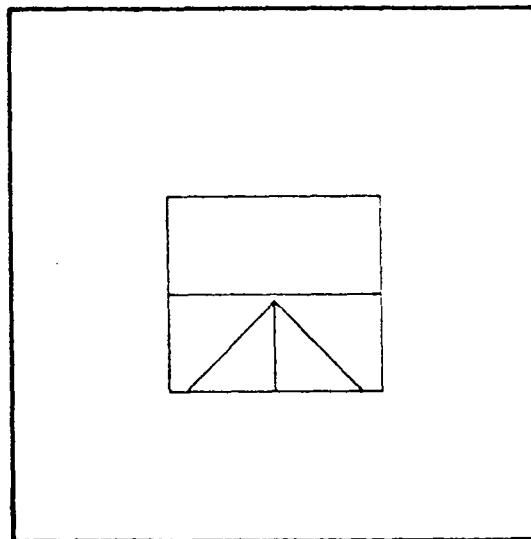
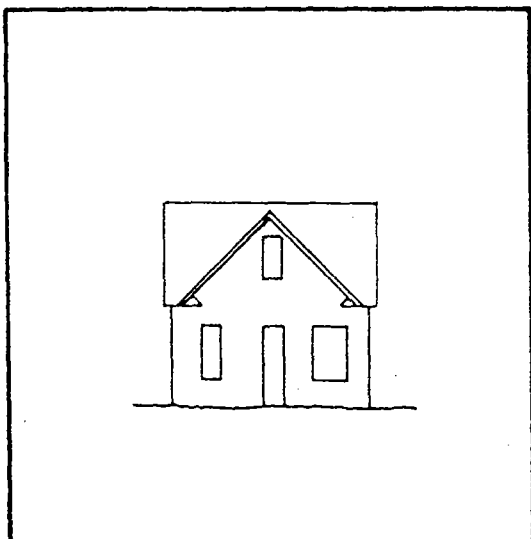
PROPERTY TYPE: Ranch (08.1), Doctor office (15.4)

LOCATION: SE1/4, NE1/4, Sec. 13, T.27N, R.32W

TOTAL CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS: 9 STRUCTURES: 0

SITES: 0 OBJECTS: 1

Included in the Preliminary Inventory for the significant collection of historic buildings including the well-preserved sod home and original frame office of Dr. Rollin Roth.



NeHBS NUMBER: CE00-129

DATE: c.1910

COMMON NAME: Howard Long Ranch

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Agriculture: (08.08)

PROPERTY TYPE: Ranch (08.1)

LOCATION: NW1/4, SE1/4, Sec. 21, T.27N, R.30W

TOTAL CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS: 6 STRUCTURES: 2

SITES: 0 OBJECTS: 3

Selected as a potentially significant example of an early twentieth-century Sand Hills Range Livestock Production property.



NeHBS NUMBER: CE00-130

DATE: c.1900

COMMON NAME: Tank Wagon

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Agriculture: (08.08)

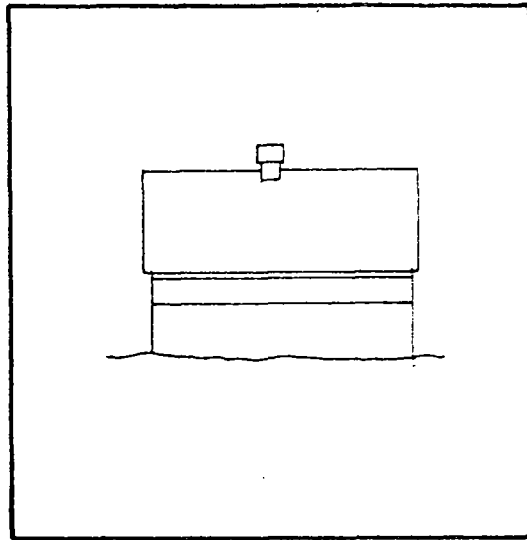
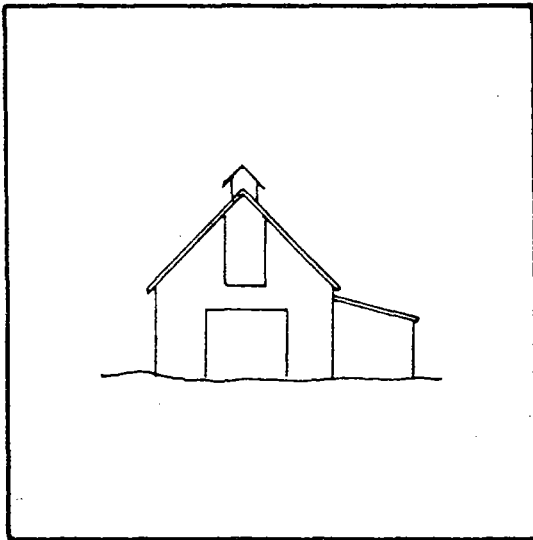
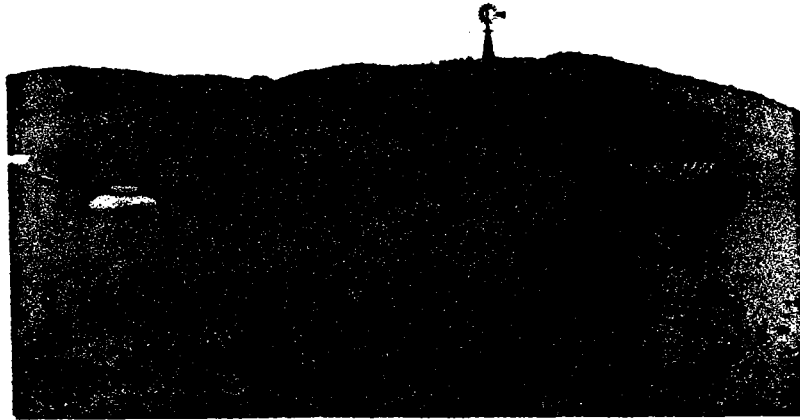
PROPERTY TYPE: Wagon (13.4.1)

LOCATION: SE1/4, SW1/4, Sec. 20, T.26N, R.28W

TOTAL CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS: 0 STRUCTURES: 0

SITES: 0 OBJECTS: 1

Included in the Preliminary Inventory for its association to the context of Agriculture and to represent the diversity of early mechanized equipment available during this period.



NeHBS NUMBER: CE00-147

DATE: c.1905

COMMON NAME: Punta de Flecha Ranch

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Agriculture: (08.08)

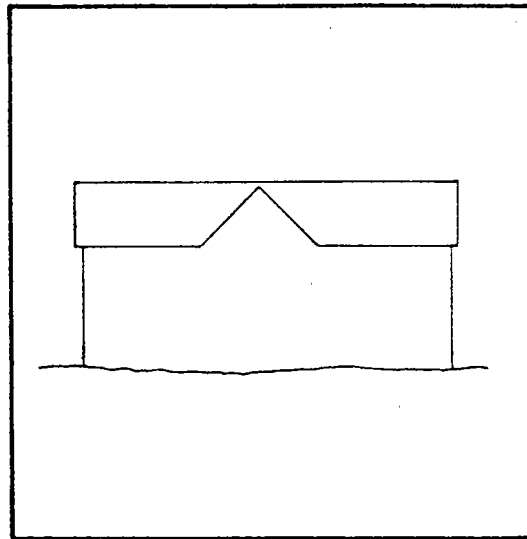
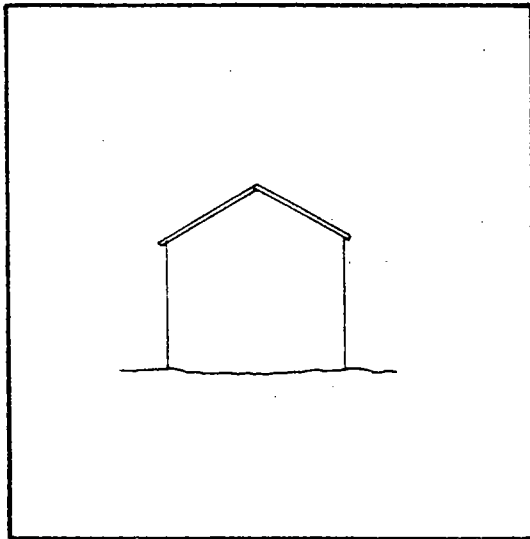
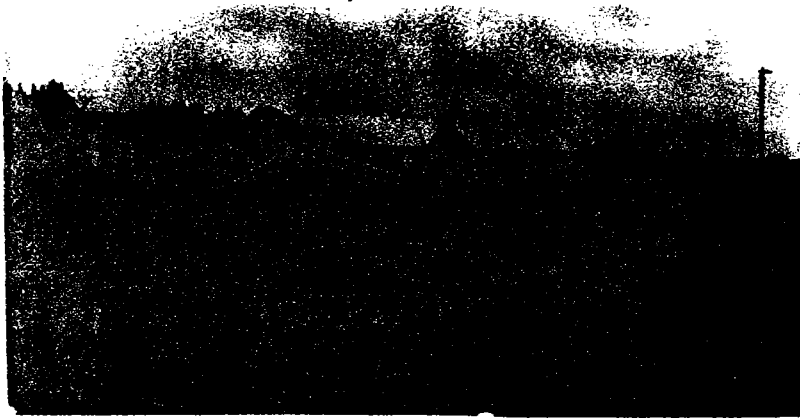
PROPERTY TYPE: Ranch (08.1)

LOCATION: SE1/4, NW1/4, Sec.27, T.34N, R.28W

TOTAL CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS: 8 STRUCTURES: 0

SITES: 0 OBJECTS: 6

Potentially eligible to the National Register as a significant example of Sand Hills Range Livestock Production in Cherry County.



NeHBS NUMBER: CE00-152

DATE: c.1915

COMMON NAME: Ranch

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Agriculture: (08.08)

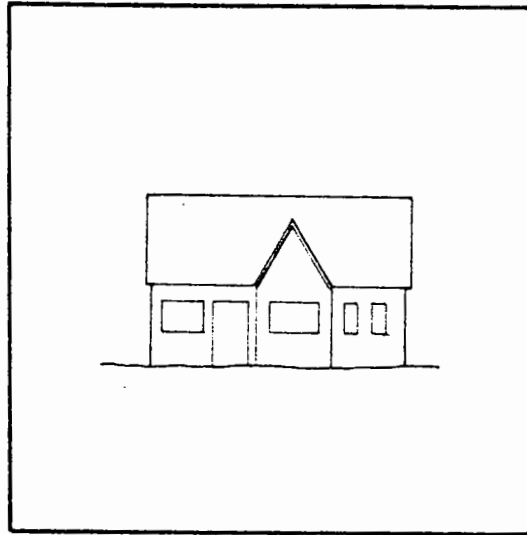
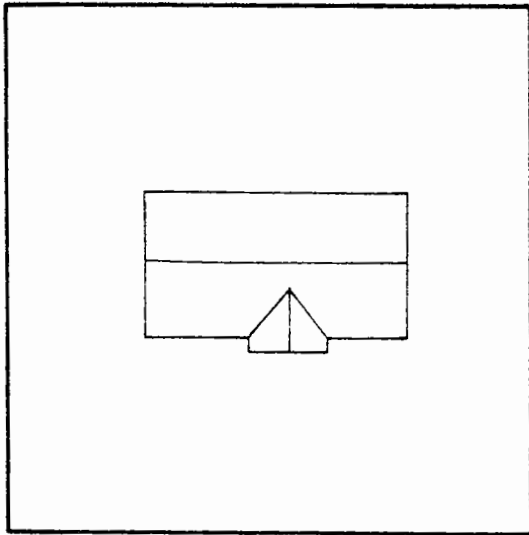
PROPERTY TYPE: Ranch (08.1)

LOCATION: NW1/4, NE1/4, Sec. 12, T.34N, R.40W

TOTAL CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS: 3 **STRUCTURES:** 0

SITES: 0 **OBJECTS:** 4

Included in the Preliminary Inventory for association with the
Historic Context of Sand Hills Range Livestock Production (08.08).



NeHBS NUMBER: CE00-179

DATE: 1892

RESOURCE NAME: J.C. McNare Ranch

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Agriculture: (08.08)

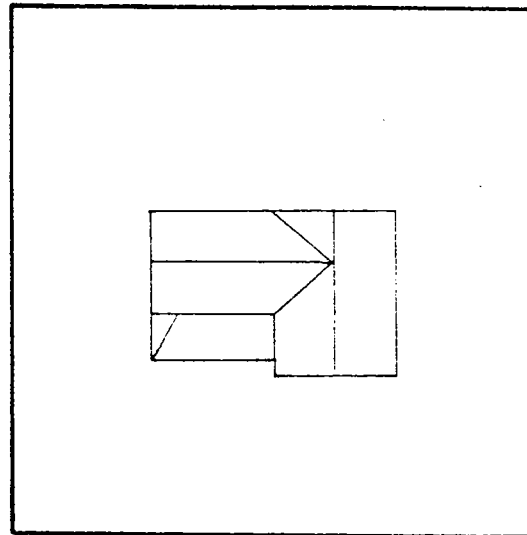
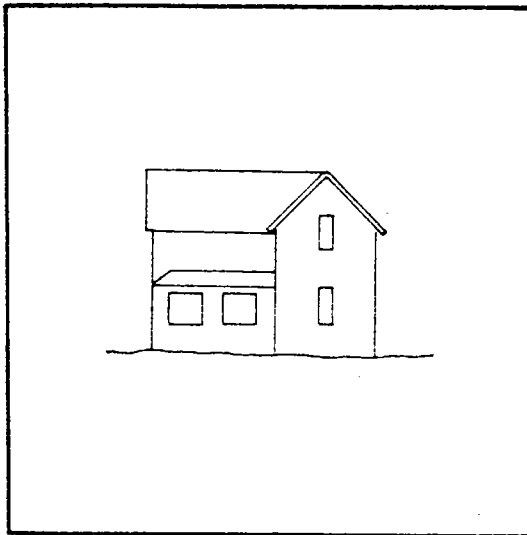
PROPERTY TYPE: Ranch (08.1)

LOCATION: SW1/4, NE1/4, Sec. 23, T.32N, R.26W

TOTAL CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS: 12 **STRUCTURES:** 0

SITES: 0 **OBJECTS:** 4

This property is representative of the Sand Hills Livestock Production industry and retains a moderate degree of historic integrity. Homesteaded in 1882 by George & Katherine Vlasnik.



NeHBS NUMBER: CE00-180

DATE: c.1920

COMMON NAME: Cozad Ranch

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Agriculture: (08.08)

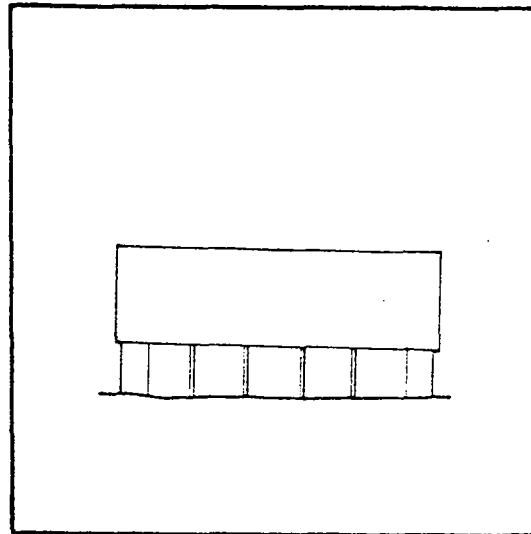
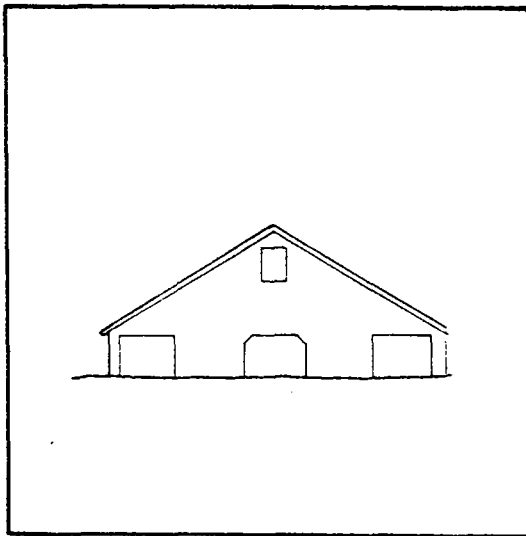
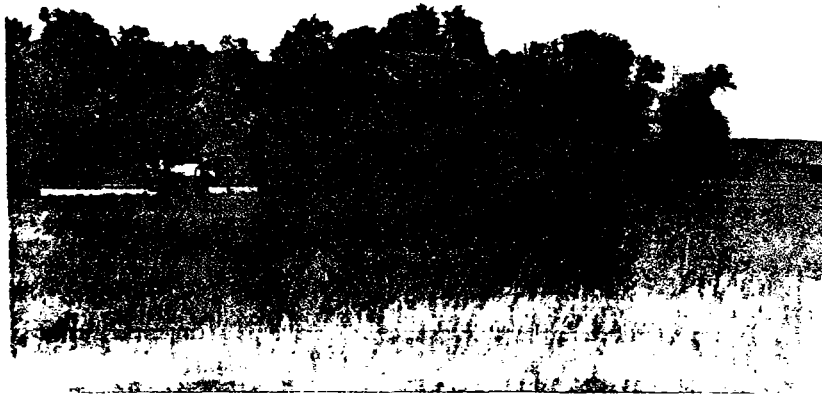
PROPERTY TYPE: Ranch (08.1)

LOCATION: SE1/4, SE1/4, Sec. 2, T.32N, R.26W

TOTAL CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS: 8 STRUCTURES: 0

SITES: 0 OBJECTS: 7

Potentially significant for association with Sand Hills Range Livestock Production as evidenced by the collection of early twentieth-century cattle producing buildings.



NeHBS NUMBER: CE00-181

DATE: c.1909

RESOURCE NAME: Grove Land Cattle Company

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Agriculture: (08.08)

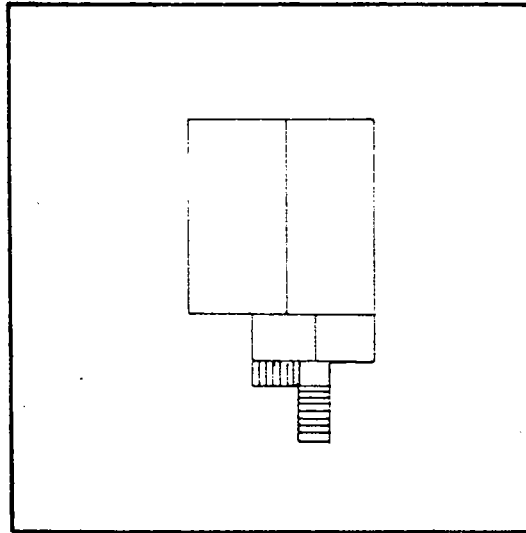
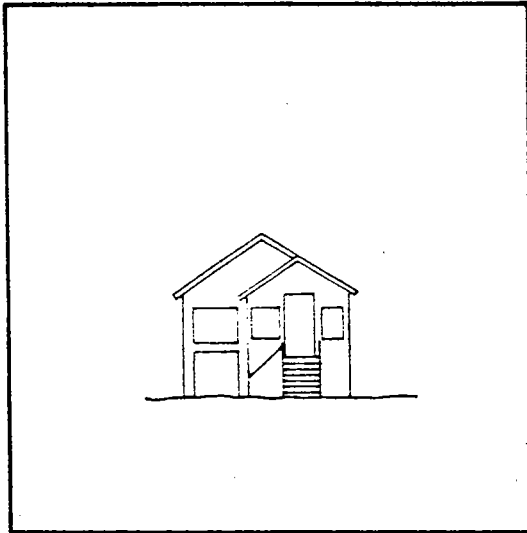
PROPERTY TYPE: Ranch (08.1)

LOCATION: SW1/4, NE1/4, Sec. 33, T.32N, R.25W

TOTAL CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS: 6 STRUCTURES: 0

SITES: 0 OBJECTS: 4

Former large-scale livestock producing ranch included in the Inventory primarily for the presence of the massive frame stock barn purportedly built with peg and dowel construction.



NeHBS NUMBER: CE00-185

DATE: 1899

RESOURCE NAME: Peter Becker Ranch

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Agriculture: (08.08)

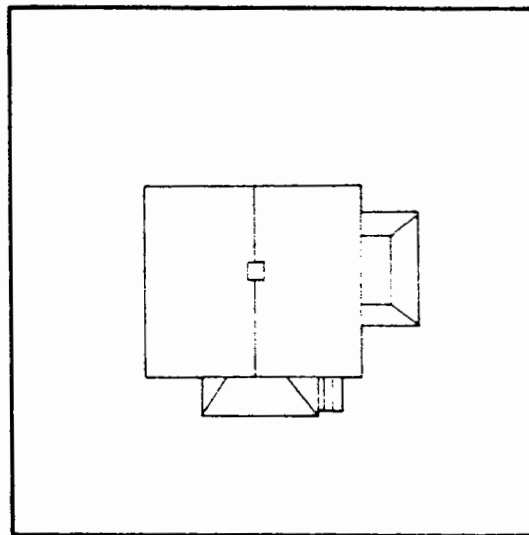
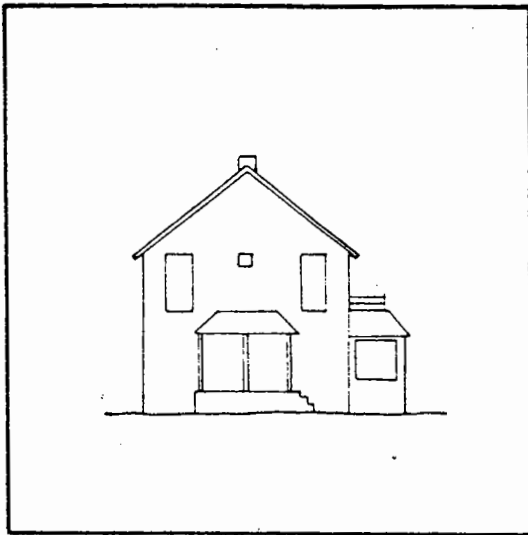
PROPERTY TYPE: Ranch (08.1)

LOCATION: NW1/4, NW1/4, Sec. 28, T.25N, R.39W

TOTAL CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS: 11 STRUCTURES: 0

SITES: 0 OBJECTS: 2

Large-scale Sand Hills cattle ranch important for the adaptive re-use of livestock producing buildings to accommodate the transitional growth of the cattle-raising industry during the early twentieth-century.



NeHBS NUMBER: CE00-187

DATE: c.1903

RESOURCE NAME: F.B. Sterns Ranch

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Agriculture: (08.08)

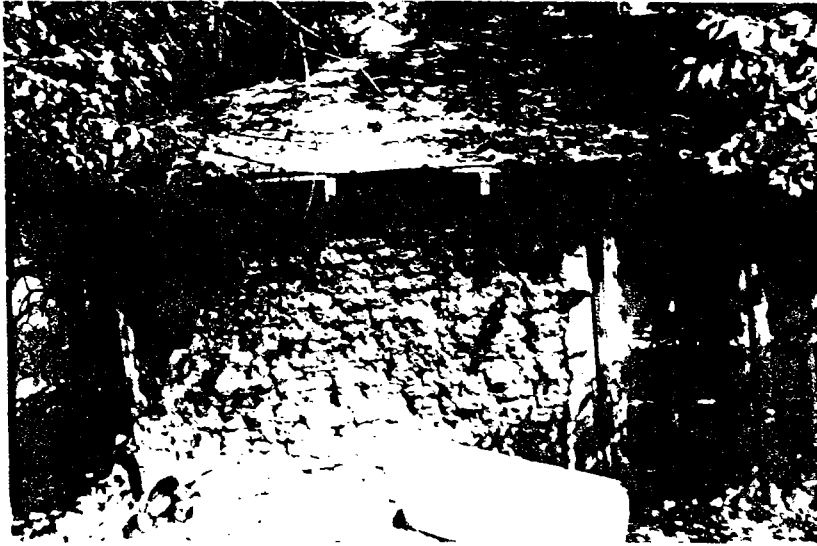
PROPERTY TYPE: Ranch (08.1)

LOCATION: NW1/4, NE1/4, Sec. 34, T.26N, R.40W

TOTAL CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS: 7 STRUCTURES: 0

SITES: 0 OBJECTS: 0

Selected as a well-preserved and potentially significant contributor to the Historic Context of Sand Hills Range Livestock Production.



NeHBS NUMBER: CE00-188

DATE: c.1900

RESOURCE NAME: George A. Adam Homestead

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Agriculture: (08.08)

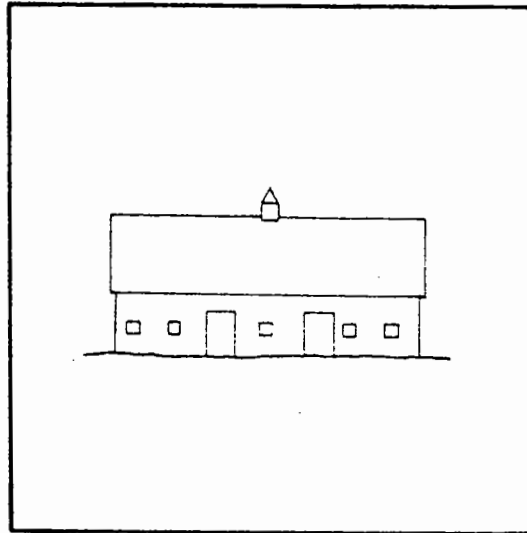
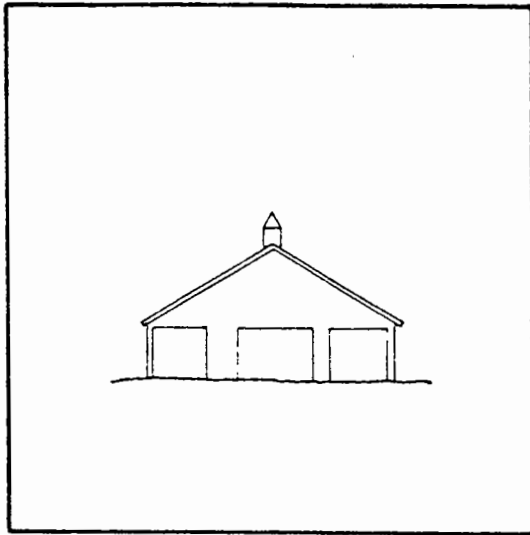
PROPERTY TYPE: Ranch (08.1)

LOCATION: SW1/4, SE1/4, Sec. 34, T.26N, R.39W

TOTAL CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS: 6 STRUCTURES: 0

SITES: 0 OBJECTS: 3

Despite its current state of deterioration, this property was considered potentially significant for the presence of the circa 1900 sod house of homesteader George Adam.



NeHBS NUMBER: CE00-195

DATE: 1891

RESOURCE NAME: Standard Cattle Company

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Agriculture: (08.08)

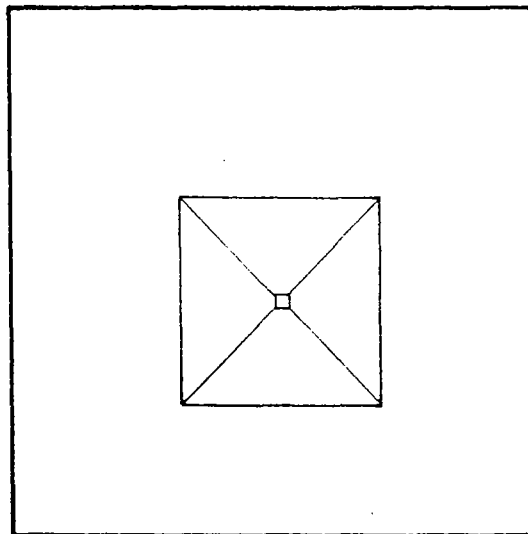
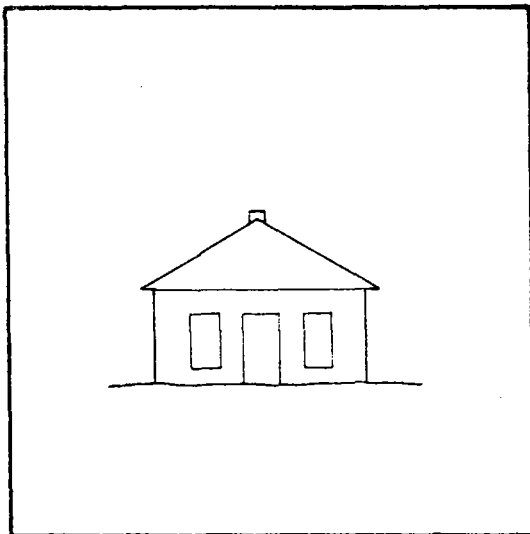
PROPERTY TYPE: Ranch (08.1)

LOCATION: NE1/4, SE1/4, Sec. 7, T.28N, R.36W

TOTAL CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS: 12 STRUCTURES: 0

SITES: 1 OBJECTS: 3

Now known as the Huffman-Carver Ranch, this property began as the late nineteenth-century headquarters of the Standard Cattle Company and is considered a significant contributor to the Historic Context of Sand Hills Range Livestock Production.



NeHBS NUMBER: CE00-196

DATE: c.1900

COMMON NAME: U-Cross Camp

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Agriculture: (08.08)

PROPERTY TYPE: Ranch (08.1)

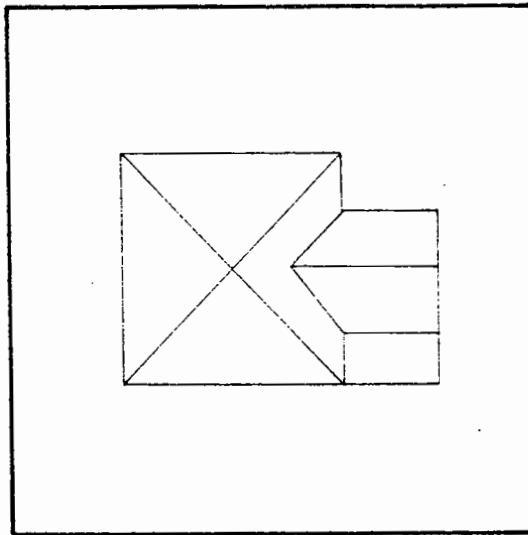
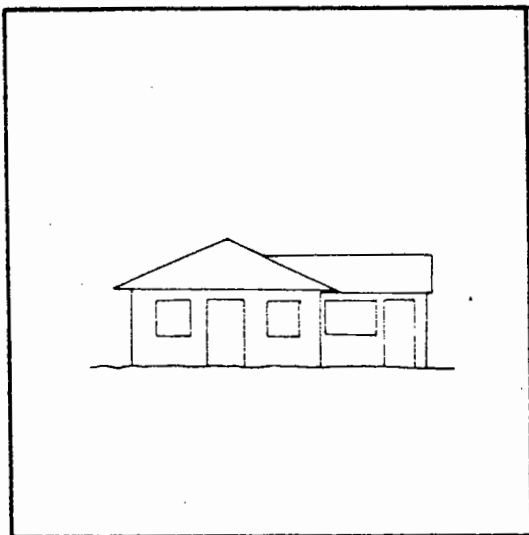
LOCATION: NW1/4, NW1/4, Sec. 34, T.28N, R.38W

TOTAL CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS: 6 **STRUCTURES:** 0

SITES: 0

OBJECTS: 1

Potentially eligible to the National Register for its association to Sand Hills Range Livestock Production.



NeHBS NUMBER: CE00-197

DATE: c.1900

RESOURCE NAME: Spade Ranch Cow Camp

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Agriculture: (08.08)

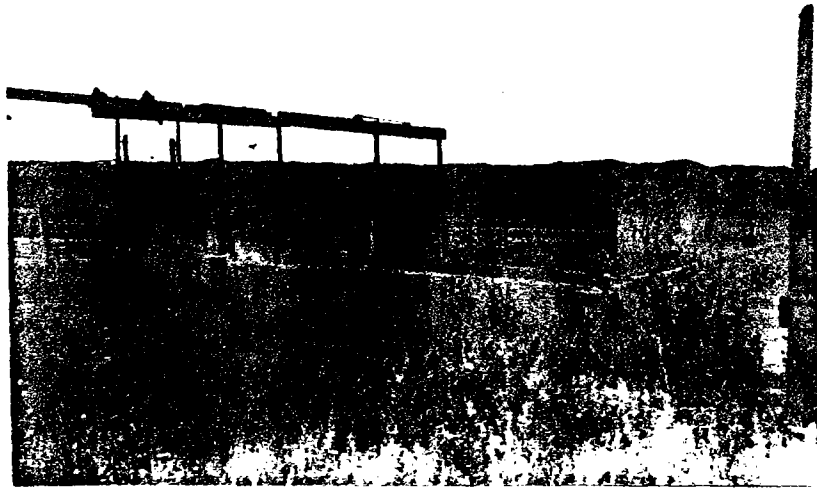
PROPERTY TYPE: Ranch (08.1)

LOCATION: SW1/4, SW1/4, Sec. 5, T.29N, R.39W

TOTAL CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS: 10 STRUCTURES: 0

SITES: 0 OBJECTS: 2

Significant as one of the former outlying cow camps of the Spade Ranch. This property was purportedly located on one of the Spade Ranch cattle lines and contains the original sod house illustrated above.



NeHBS NUMBER: CE00-198

DATE: c.1900

RESOURCE NAME: Former Spade Ranch Dipping Station

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Agriculture: (08.08)

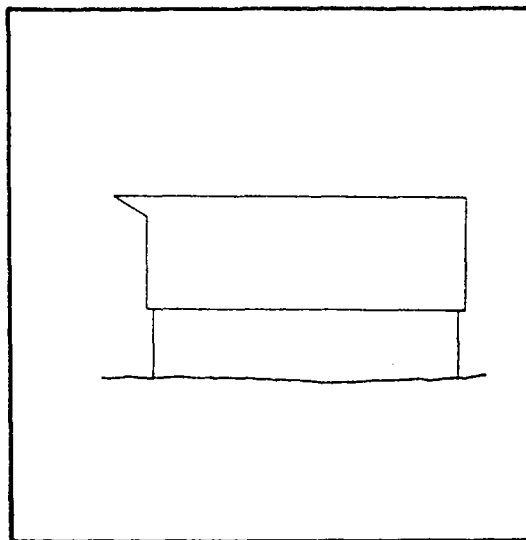
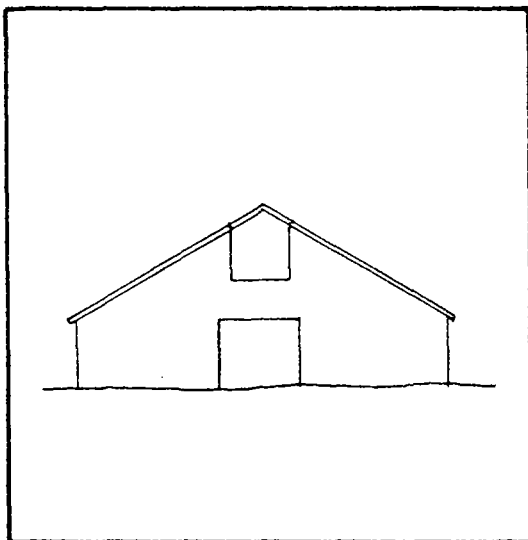
PROPERTY TYPE: Ranch (08.1)

LOCATION: SE1/4, SW1/4, Sec. 3, T.29N, R.39W

TOTAL CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS: 1 STRUCTURES: 0

SITES: 0 OBJECTS: 3

Significant as a contributor to the Historic Context of Sand Hills Range Livestock Production. Purportedly the site of one of the Spade Ranch Dipping Stations located on a former Spade cattle line and associated with CE00-197. Steam engine (c.1888) housed inside of non-contributing building.



NeHBS NUMBER: CE00-206

DATE: c.1900

RESOURCE NAME: Christian Hansen Ranch

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Agriculture: (08.08)

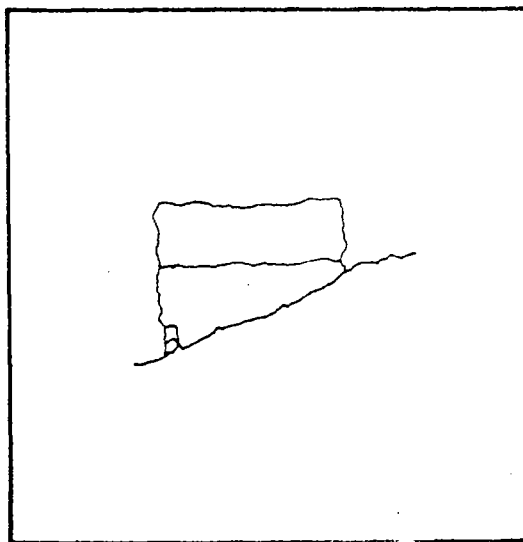
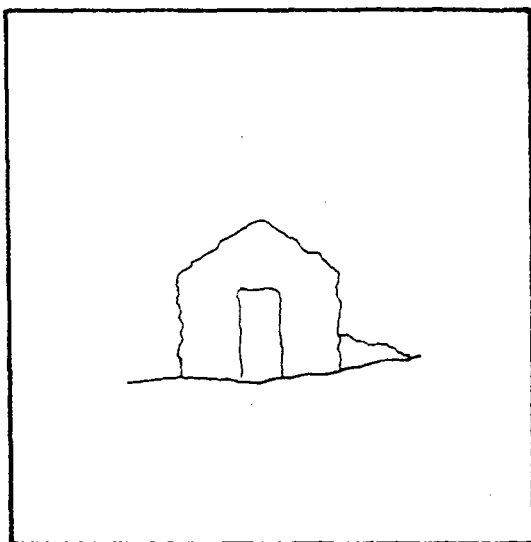
PROPERTY TYPE: Ranch (08.1)

LOCATION: SW1/4, NW1/4, Sec. 27, T.33N, R.39W

TOTAL CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS: 6 STRUCTURES: 0

SITES: 0 OBJECTS: 2

Identified as a potentially significant example of Sand Hills Range Livestock Production. Additional significance derived through association with Danish-born immigrant Christian Hansen who homesteaded on ranch during the late nineteenth-century.



NeHBS NUMBER: CE00-207

DATE: c.1880

RESOURCE NAME: Newman Bros. N-Bar Line Ranch

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Agriculture: (08.08)

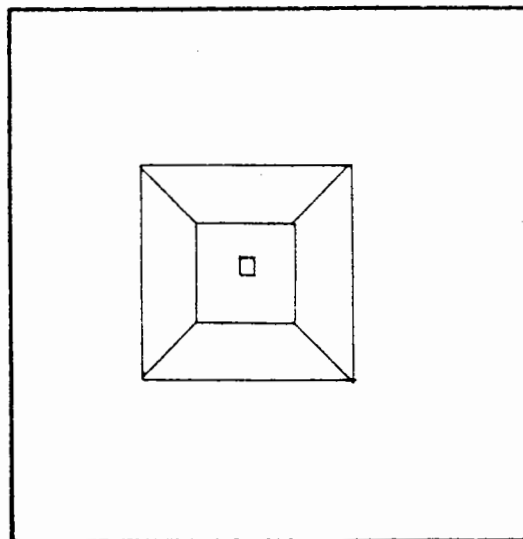
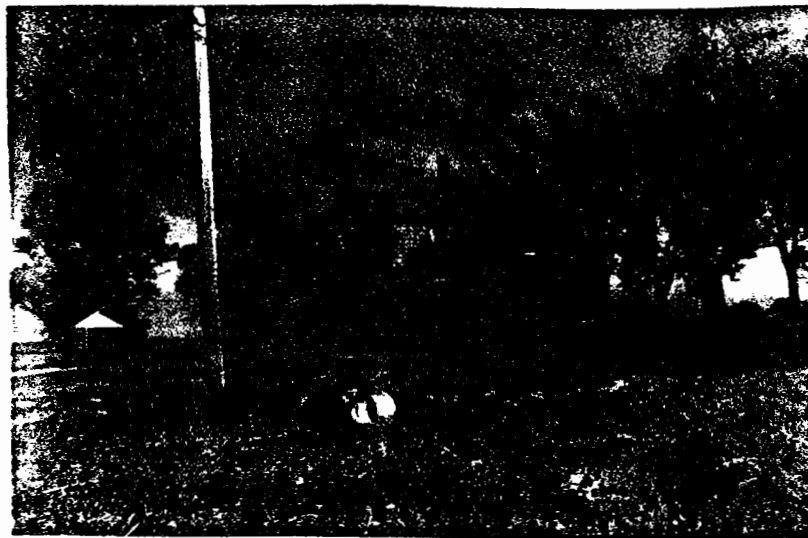
PROPERTY TYPE: Ranch (08.1)

LOCATION: NW1/4, SW1/4, Sec. 7, T.32N, R.39W

TOTAL CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS: 8 **STRUCTURES:** 0

SITES: 0 **OBJECTS:** 2

Potentially eligible to the National Register for suspected association with the Newman Bros. N-Bar Ranch. Believed to be a line-ranch of the N-Bar during the "open range" ranch days of the early 1880's. Stone dugout, large collapsed sodhouse (18'x 45'), and frame buildings occupy the site.



NeHBS NUMBER: CE00-210

DATE: 1907

COMMON NAME: Becker Ranch

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Agriculture: (08.08)

PROPERTY TYPE: Ranch (08.1)

LOCATION: SE1/4, SW1/4, Sec. 21, T.32N, R.39W

TOTAL CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS: 3 STRUCTURES: 0

SITES: 0 OBJECTS: 1

Selected as a potentially significant representative of Sand Hills Range Livestock Production in northeast Cherry County. Two-story house constructed of concrete block.



NeHBS NUMBER: CE00-131

DATE: c.1935

COMMON NAME: Cottonwood Allee

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Agriculture: (08.08), Transportation: (13.02.02)

PROPERTY TYPE: Unassigned

LOCATION: NW 1/4, NE 1/4, Sec. 29, T.26 N., R.28 W.

TOTAL CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS: 0 STRUCTURES: 0

SITES: 0 OBJECTS: 1

Included in the Preliminary Inventory as an example of the importance of tree-planting to the Sand Hills geographic region. The introduction of trees for shelter, habitat and aesthetics made an important contribution to the settlement of the area.

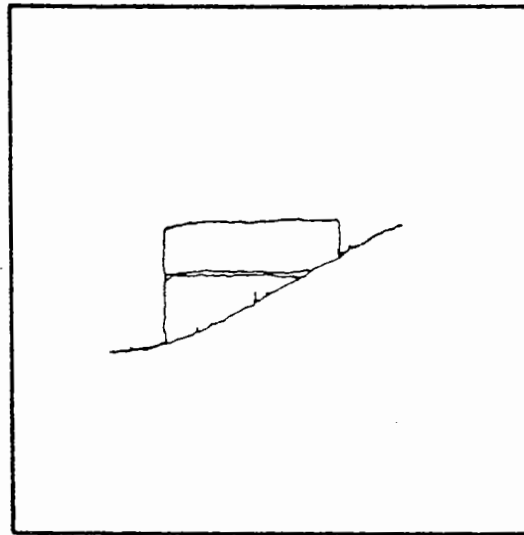
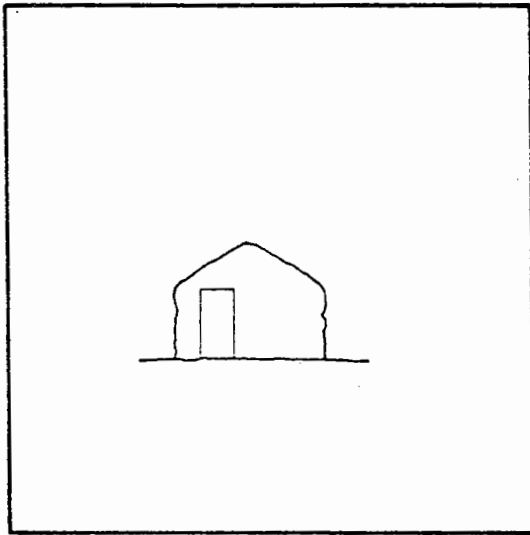
HISTORIC CONTEXT: Commerce

The context of Commerce is defined as the buying and selling of commodities, involving transportation from place to place. Considerations include wholesaling and retailing; gift exchange; trade and barter; monetary economy including finance, business organization, and mercantile business. Commerce encompasses a diverse range of businesses including such institutions as supermarkets, hotels, speciality stores, and department stores.

The reconnaissance survey of Cherry County reports a total of 33 properties associated with the context of Commerce. Main street commercial properties accounted for 23 out of the 33 catalogued sites. These main street buildings can be categorized into one of two types. First are the one and two-story false front building most commonly found in small communities. Characteristics of this type include a rectangular structure covered by a gable roof which is hidden by the exaggerated facade. The false-front helped to disguise the relatively low scale of the building by hiding the true size of the structure and thus conveying a greater sense of prominence. The primary era of construction in Cherry County for this type occurred from the early 1880's to approximately 1905. The second numerically significant type documented by the survey was the masonry commercial block. These buildings are generally large-scale masonry buildings confined primarily to larger communities. This building type appears to have been employed between the years of 1900 and 1930, and usually consisted of one and two-story masonry structures with one or two-part compositional facades. These buildings were often built on single

25-foot commercial lots or in double to triple-wide commercial blocks of 50 to 75 foot width.

Eight properties in Cherry County have been selected as potentially eligible to the National Register with an additional ten properties worthy of "Second Priority" listing. These eight properties have been illustrated in the following Preliminary Inventory of Commerce-related buildings.



NeHBS NUMBER: CE00-151

DATE: c.1890

RESOURCE NAME: Cooper General Store

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Commerce: (12.02)

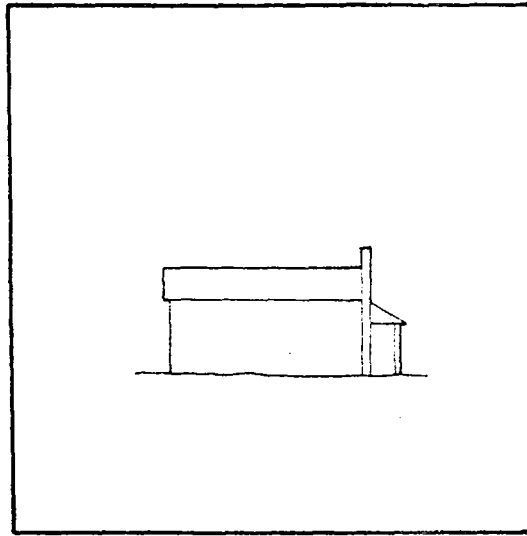
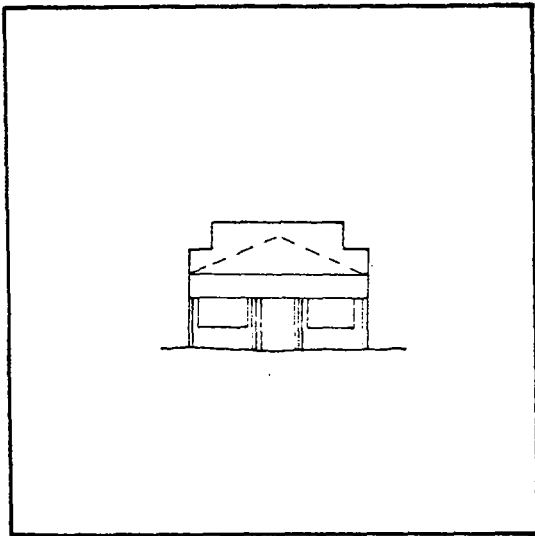
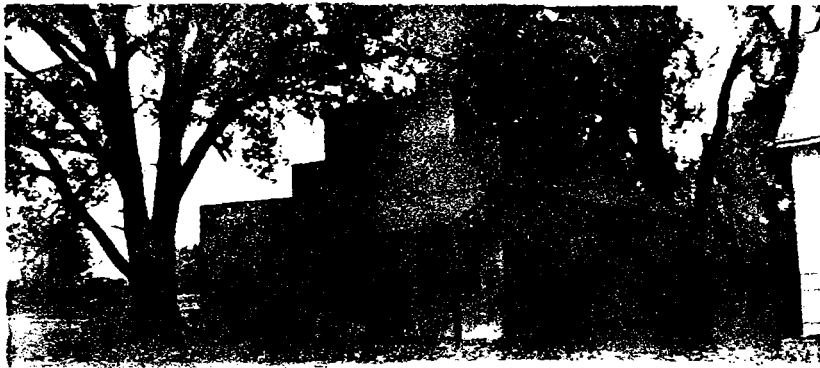
PROPERTY TYPE: General Store (12.1.1.3)

LOCATION: NE1/4, SW1/4, Sec. 31, T.33N, R.39W

TOTAL CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS: 1 **STRUCTURES:** 0

SITES: 0 **OBJECTS:** 0

Stone cellar and foundation remains of the former Cooper General Store located adjacent the railhead of the once-thriving livestock shipping center of Irwin, Nebraska.



NeHBS NUMBER: CE02-2

DATE: c.1905

RESOURCE NAME: White's General Store

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Commerce: (12.02)

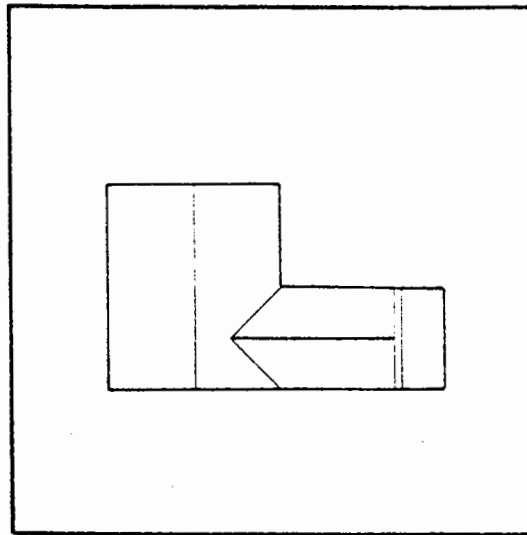
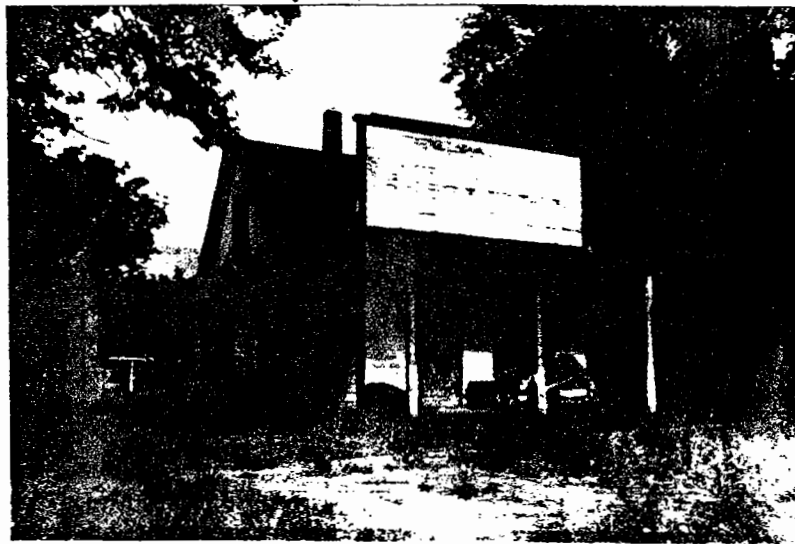
PROPERTY TYPE: General Store (12.1.1.3)

LOCATION: see County Road Map

TOTAL CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS: 1 STRUCTURES: 0

SITES: 0 OBJECTS: 0

Considered potentially eligible for National Register listing based on its role in the early twentieth-century commercial development of Brownlee.



NeHBS NUMBER: CE04-9

DATE: c.1910

RESOURCE NAME: Dr. Walter Vanden Drug and Residence

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Commerce: (12.02), Services: (15.03)

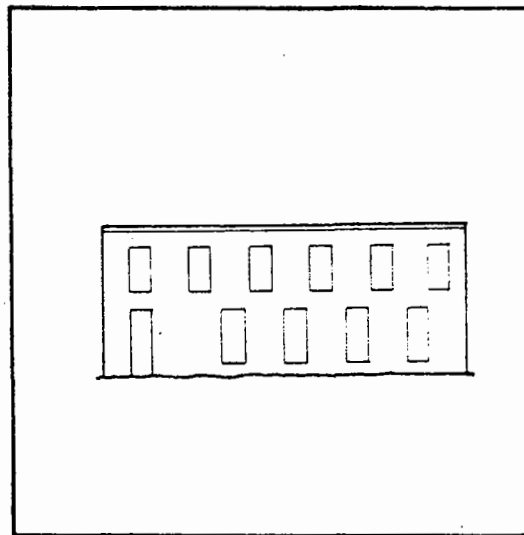
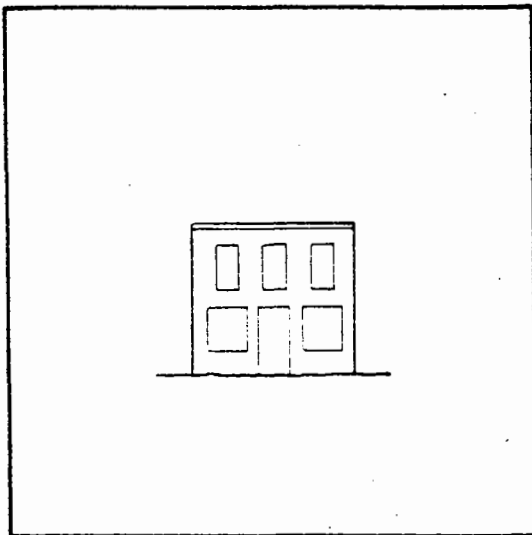
PROPERTY TYPE: Store (12.1.1), Office: (15.3.1)

LOCATION: WS Elm bet. Oak & 2nd Sts, Crookston

TOTAL CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS: 3 **STRUCTURES:** 0

SITES: 0 **OBJECTS:** 0

Residence, office and drug store of Dr. Walter Vanden. Potentially significant as a unique multi-functional property type and for association with a person of local importance in Crookston during the early twentieth-century.



NeHBS NUMBER: CE09-10

DATE: 1914

RESOURCE NAME: Kilgore Hotel

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Commerce: (12.02)

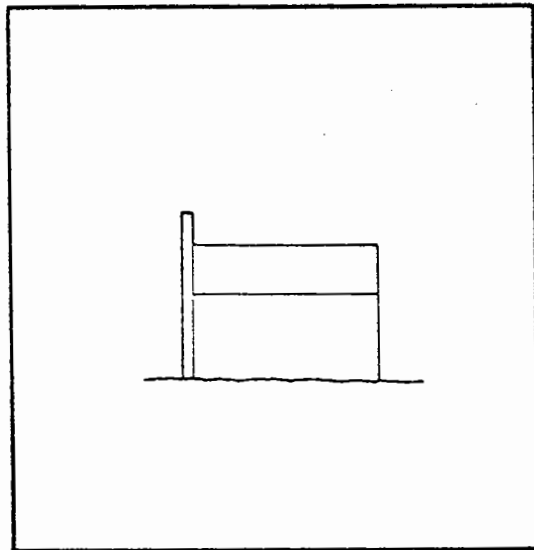
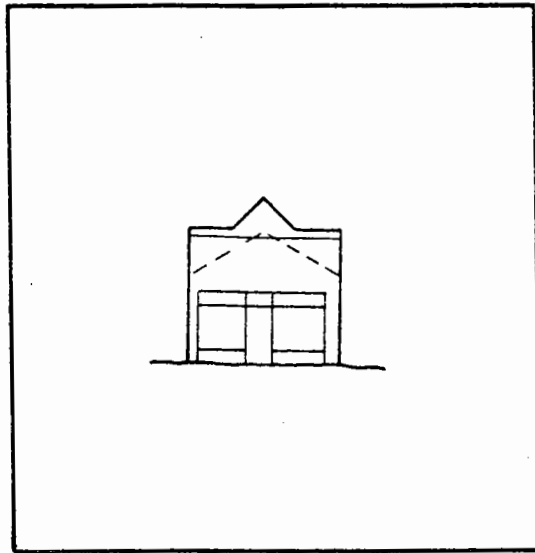
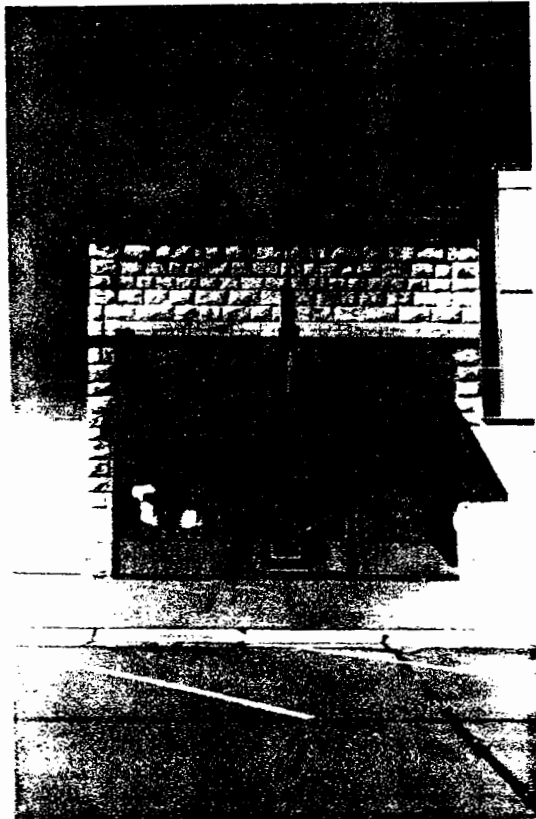
PROPERTY TYPE: Hotels: (12.3.1)

LOCATION: SWC Steinbrecher & Jefferson, Kilgore

TOTAL CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS: 1 STRUCTURES: 0

SITES: 0 OBJECTS: 0

Two-story frame hotel judged potentially significant as an early twentieth-century example of railroad-motivated commercial enterprises.



NeHBS NUMBER: CE14-93

DATE: 1896

RESOURCE NAME: Yeast Hardware

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Commerce: (12.02)

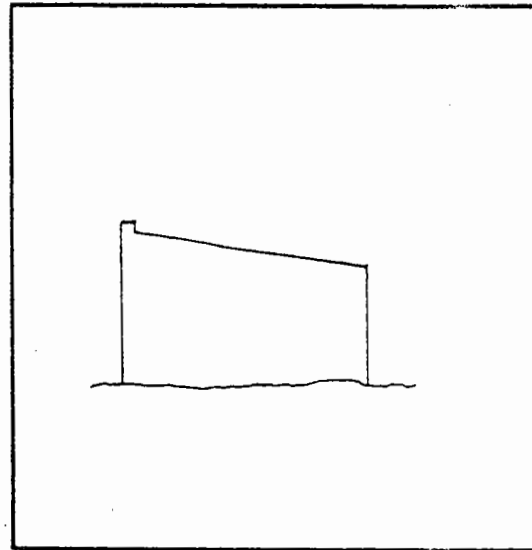
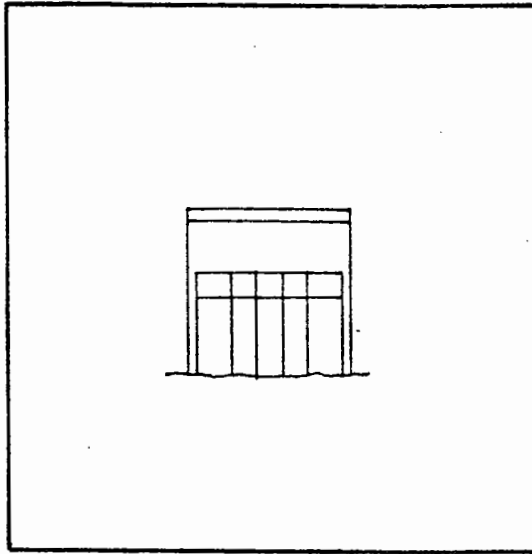
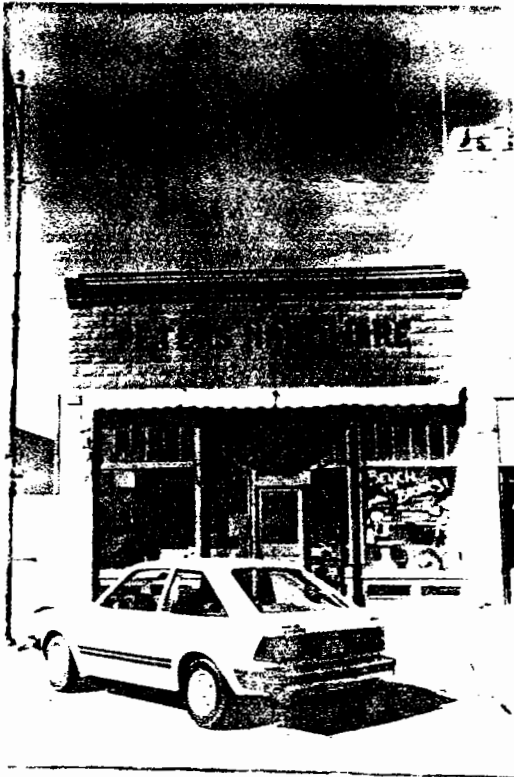
PROPERTY TYPE: Stores (12.1.1)

LOCATION: WS N. Main St. bet. 2nd and 3rd Sts., Valentine.

TOTAL CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS: 1 STRUCTURES: 0

SITES: 0 OBJECTS: 0

One-story stone commercial building potentially significant for its association with retailing in the late nineteenth-century and as a primary contributor to the historic character of the Valentine central business district.



NeHBS NUMBER: CE14-96

DATE: 1900

RESOURCE NAME: Gasson Grocery

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Commerce: (12.02)

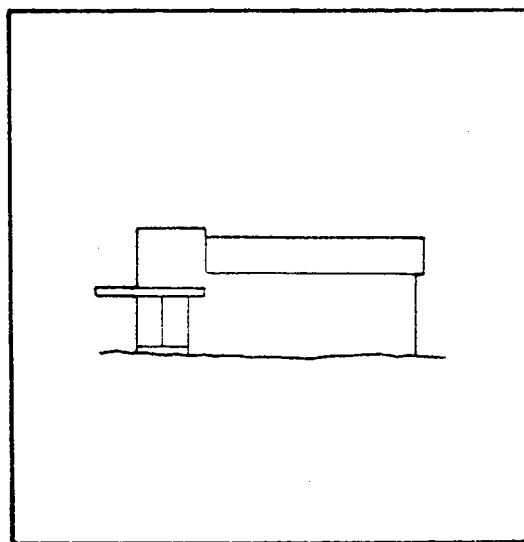
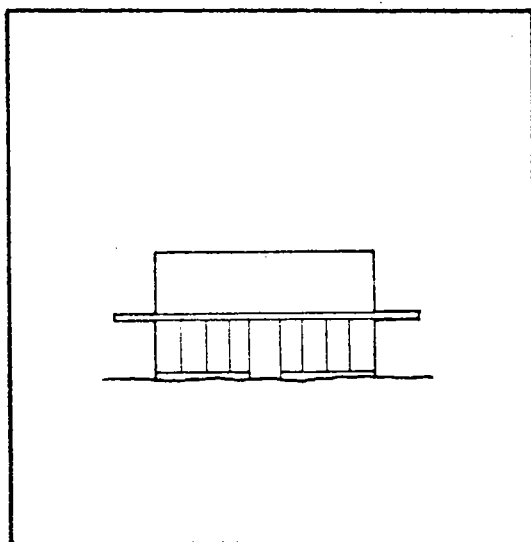
PROPERTY TYPE: Store (12.1.1)

LOCATION: WS Main bet. 1st & 2nd Sts, Valentine

TOTAL CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS: 1 STRUCTURES: 0

SITES: 0 OBJECTS: 0

One-story stone commercial building potentially significant for its association with early twentieth-century retailing and as a reminder of the historic character of the original Valentine commercial district.



NeHBS NUMBER: CE14-136

DATE: c.1940

COMMON NAME: Commercial Building

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Commerce: (12.02)

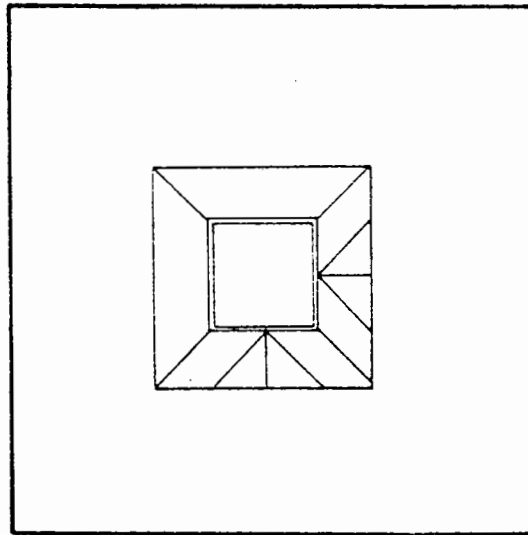
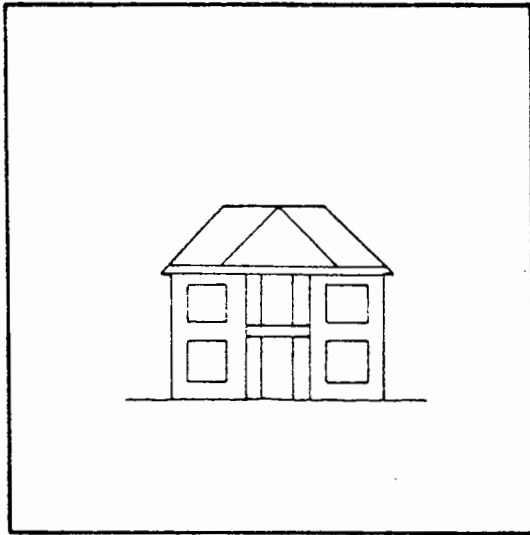
PROPERTY TYPE: Commercial building (12.1)

LOCATION: NEC Hwy 20 & S Wood St, Valentine

TOTAL CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS: 1 **STRUCTURES:** 0

SITES: 0 **OBJECTS:** 0

Selected for the Preliminary Inventory based on its association with the Historic Context of Retail Commerce in Cherry County. Shows influence of the Moderne Style.



NeHBS NUMBER: CE15-15

DATE: 1900

RESOURCE NAME: Wood Lake Hotel

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Commerce: (12.02)

PROPERTY TYPE: Hotels: (12.3.1)

LOCATION: SWC Dexter & Main Sts., Wood Lake.

TOTAL CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS: 2 STRUCTURES: 0

SITES: 0 OBJECTS: 0

Included in the Inventory for the excellent retention of historic integrity and as a unique example of a dual Main St./railroad hotel type.

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Transportation

The context of Transportation involves the carrying, moving or conveying of material and people from one place to another. Considerations include transportation by land, water, and air; trails, roads, highways, interstates, rail; related service accommodations such as motels, service stations, and drive-ins.

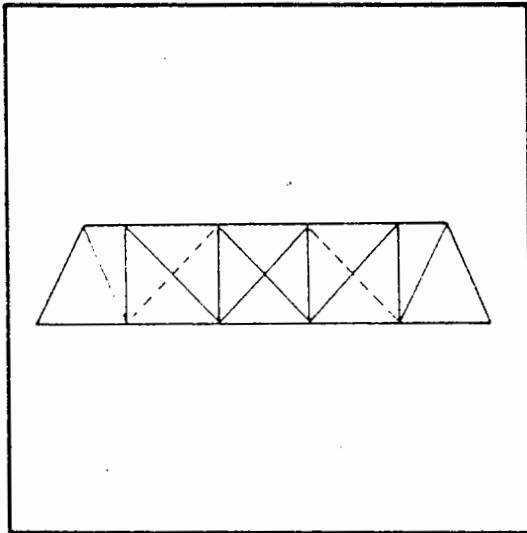
Nineteen properties associated with the Historic Context of Transportation were documented by the Cherry County reconnaissance survey. Of these 19 properties, nine were included in the Preliminary Inventory and are considered potentially eligible for National Register listing.

The series of bridges spanning the Niobrara River proved to be the most noteworthy set of structures within this context and account for five of the nine potentially eligible properties listed in the inventory. The first bridge across the Niobrara River was built in 1882 at the site of the present Berry Bridge. It was constructed of logs and lumber and people were charged a toll of twenty-five cents to cross. The bridge was taken out by an ice jam within a few years.

In February, 1916, a severe cold spell and subsequent warming trend caused ice jams in the Niobrara River that resulted in the destruction of all but two of the bridges; the Hanson and Bell bridges. A series of new bridges were subsequently constructed using Pratt half-hip iron trusses manufactured by the Canton Bridge Company of Canton, Ohio.

Often times the bridges spanning the Niobrara River in northern Cherry County were given the same name as the nearest property owner. The Darr Bridge

(CE00-105) is one example and was named after Jack Darr who lived nearby. Originally, the Darr Bridge consisted of a "pole bridge". The current Darr Bridge was erected in 1916 with iron trusses manufactured by the Canton Bridge Company of Canton, Ohio. .



NeHBS NUMBER: CE00-26

DATE: 1909

RESOURCE NAME: Crane Bridge

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Transportation: (13)

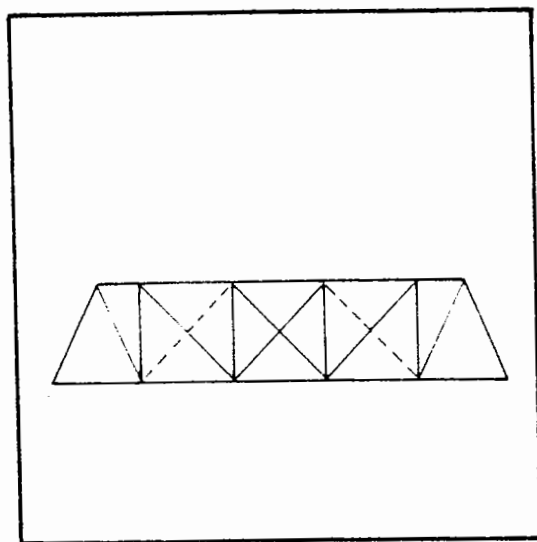
PROPERTY TYPE: Bridge (13.3.3.7)

LOCATION: SE1/4, NW1/4, SEC.11, T.33N, R.36W

TOTAL CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS: 0 STRUCTURES: 1

SITES: 0 OBJECTS: 0

Selected to the Preliminary Inventory for its contribution to the context of Transportation. The Crane Bridge retains a high degree of integrity and is one of a series of Niobrara River Bridges manufactured by the Canton Bridge Company.



NeHBS NUMBER: CE00-77

DATE: 1913

RESOURCE NAME: Anderson Bridge

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Transportation: (13)

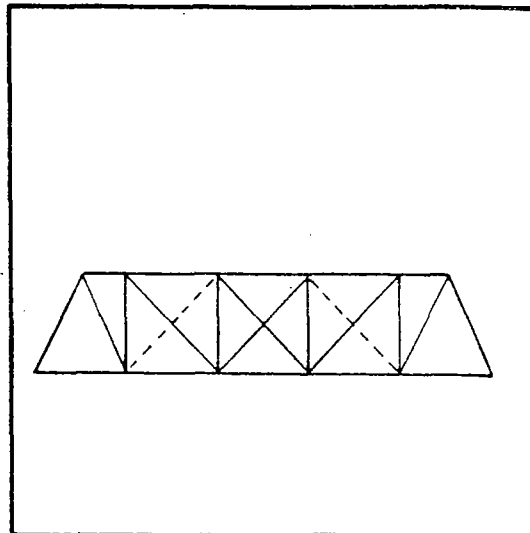
PROPERTY TYPE: Bridge (13.3.3.7)

LOCATION: SE1/4, SE1/4, Sec. 35, T.32N, R.31W

TOTAL CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS: 0 STRUCTURES: 1

SITES: 0 OBJECTS: 0

Important for its contributions to the Historic Context of Transportation in Cherry County and as one of a series of Niobrara River Bridges constructed with iron trusses manufactured by the Canton Bridge Company of Canton, Ohio.



NeHBS NUMBER: CE00-105

DATE: 1916

RESOURCE NAME: Darr Bridge

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Transportation: (13)

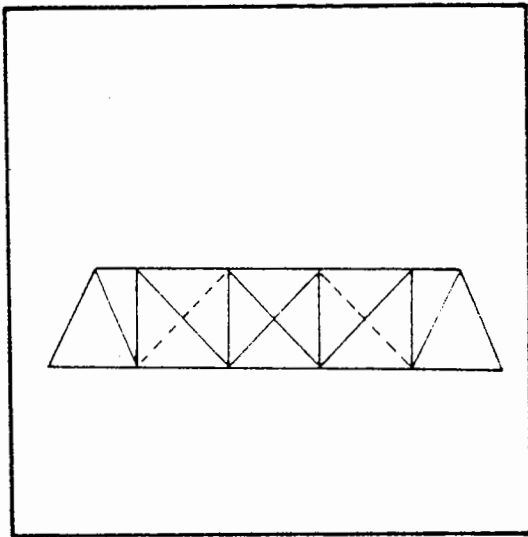
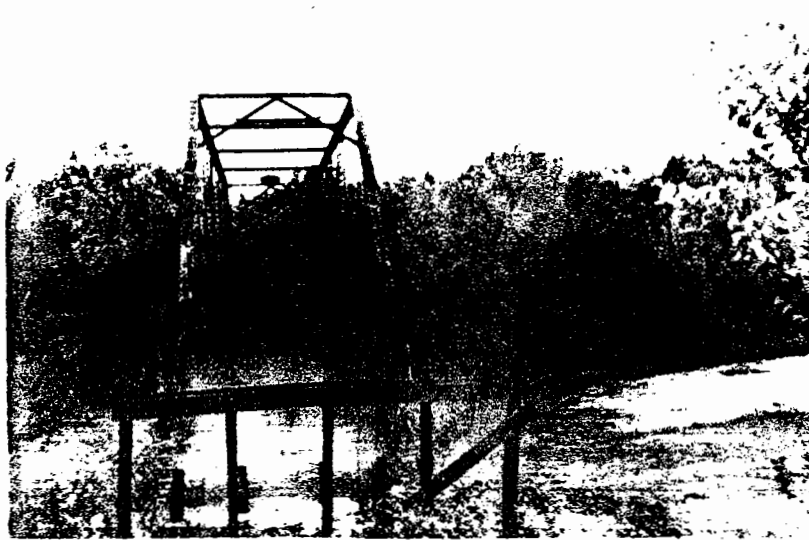
PROPERTY TYPE: Bridge (13.3.3.7)

LOCATION: NW1/4, NW1/4, Sec. 33, T.33N, R.28W

TOTAL CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS: 0 STRUCTURES: 1

SITES: 0 OBJECTS: 0

Included in the Preliminary Inventory for its contribution to the Historic Context of Transportation in Cherry County and as one of a series of bridges constructed with trusses manufactured by the Canton Bridge Company.



NeHBS NUMBER: CE00-108

DATE: c.1916

RESOURCE NAME: Moosman Bridge

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Transportation: (13)

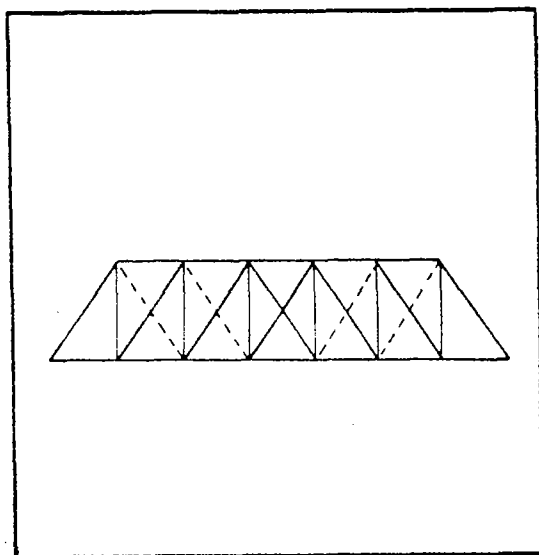
PROPERTY TYPE: Bridge (13.3.3.7)

LOCATION: NW1/4, NW1/4, Sec.25, T.33N, R.29W

TOTAL CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS: 0 STRUCTURES: 1

SITES: 0 OBJECTS: 0

Selected as a potentially eligible structure based on its contributions to the early twentieth-century transportation in Cherry County. Built with trusses manufactured by the Canton Bridge Company, Canton, Ohio.



NeHBS NUMBER: CE00-142

DATE: 1909

RESOURCE NAME: Rockford Bridge

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Transportation: (13)

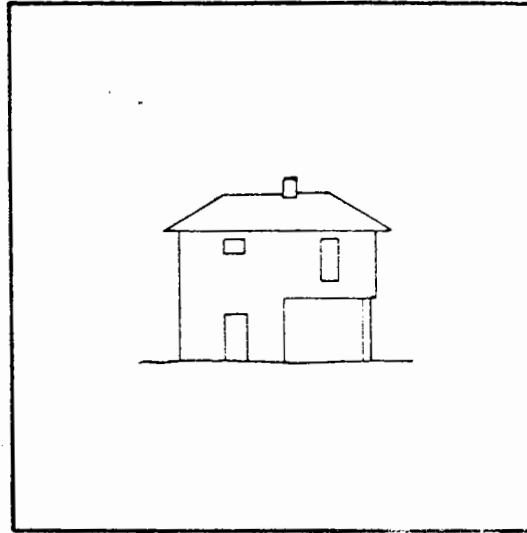
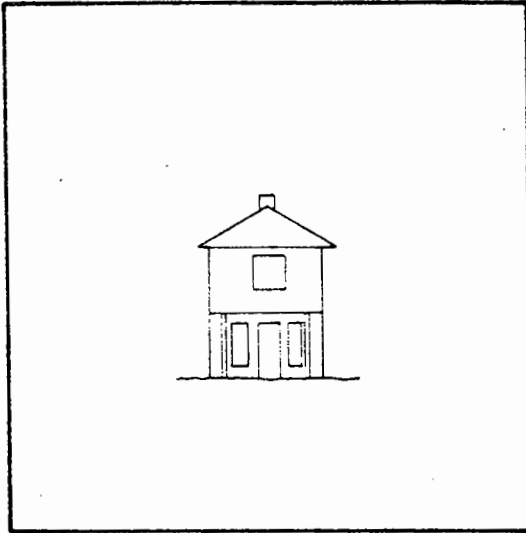
PROPERTY TYPE: Bridge (13.3.3.7)

LOCATION: SE1/4, SE1/4, Sec. 22, T.33N, R.37W

TOTAL CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS: 0 STRUCTURES: 1

SITES: 0 OBJECTS: 0

Selected as a potentially eligible structure based on its contributions to early twentieth-century transportation in Cherry County. Built with trusses manufactured by the Canton Bridge Company, Canton, Ohio.



NeHBS NUMBER: CE03-8

DATE: c.1925

RESOURCE NAME: Stott's Standard Oil

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Transportation: (13)

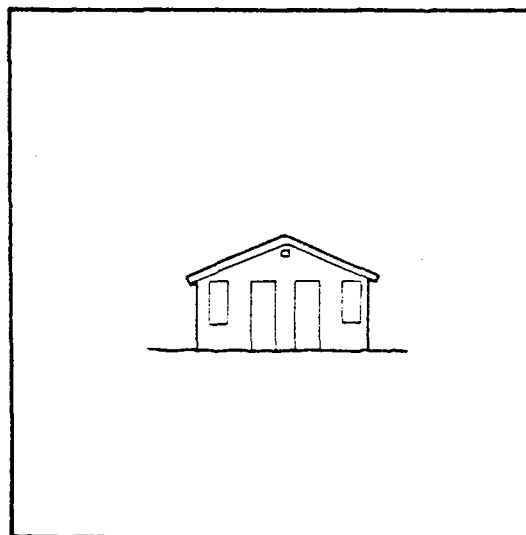
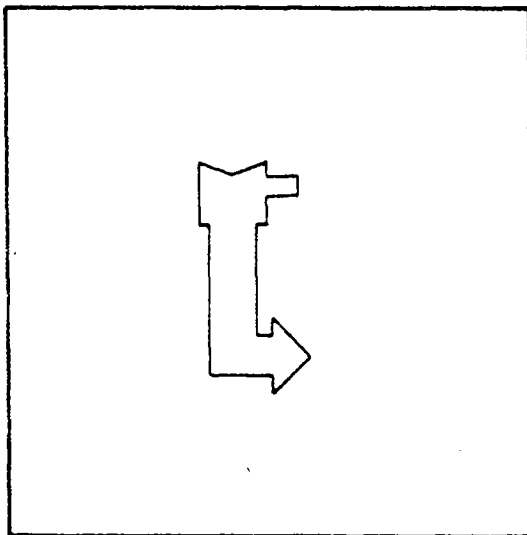
PROPERTY TYPE: Gas Station (13.3.3.3)

LOCATION: NWC Cherry & Nebraska, Cody

TOTAL CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS: 1 **STRUCTURES:** 0

SITES: 0 **OBJECTS:** 0

Potentially significant for its association with automobile transportation in Cherry County. Retains a high degree of historic integrity.



NeHBS NUMBER: CE14-62

DATE: c.1925

RESOURCE NAME: Corey Motel

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Transportation: (13), Commerce: (12.02)

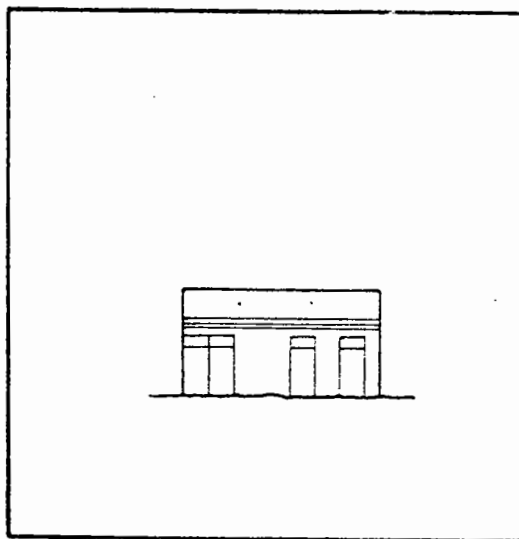
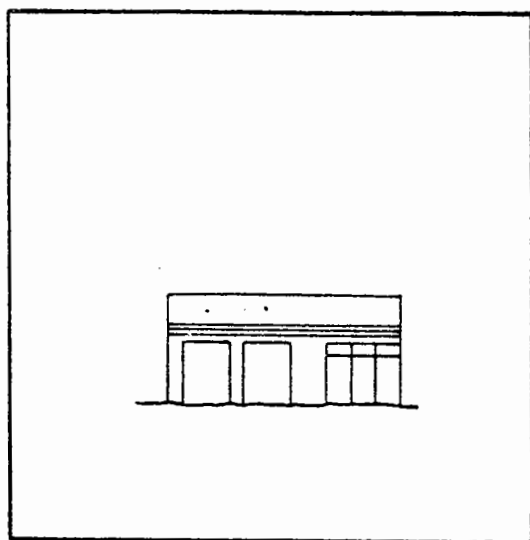
PROPERTY TYPE: Motels and Cabins (12.3.2)

LOCATION: WS Hall St. bet. Highway 20 & B St., Valentine.

TOTAL CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS: 7 STRUCTURES: 0

SITES: 0 OBJECTS: 1

Courtyard-shaped Motel and grounds significant as an expression of the development of automobile transportation in northeast Cherry County.



NeHBS NUMBER: CE14-135

DATE: c.1950

COMMON NAME: Texaco Gas Station

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Transportation: (13)

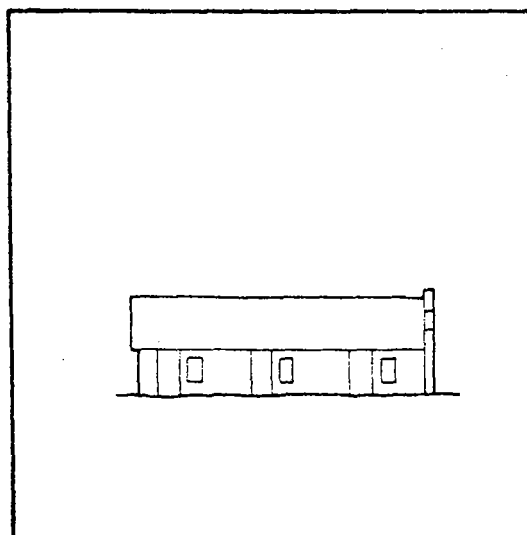
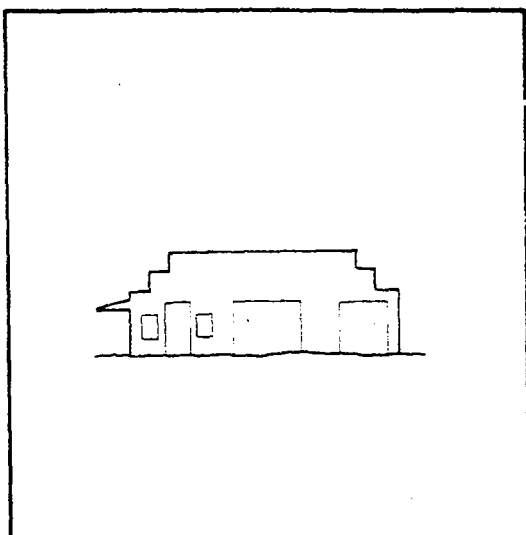
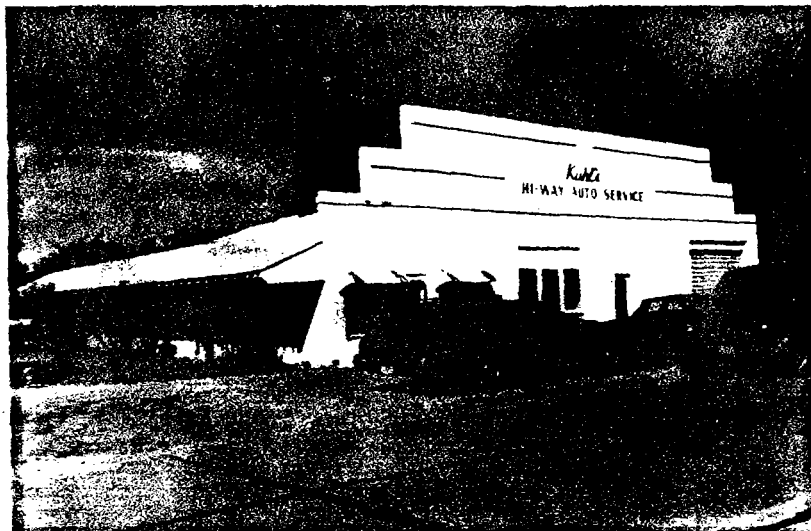
PROPERTY TYPE: Gas Station (13.3.3.3)

LOCATION: SS Hwy 20 @ Wood St, Valentine

TOTAL CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS: 1 **STRUCTURES:** 0

SITES: 0 **OBJECTS:** 0

The EM Type Texaco station, as exemplified in CE14-135, was influential in the modernization of gas stations buildings throughout the United States. Important contributor to Valentine's roadside architecture.



NeHBS NUMBER: CE14-101

DATE: c.1925

COMMON NAME: Service Garage/Motel

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Transportation: (13)

PROPERTY TYPE: Service Garage (13.3.3.4), Motel (12.3.2)

LOCATION: WS S Main bet. A & B Sts, Valentine

TOTAL CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS: 1 STRUCTURES: 0

SITES: 0 OBJECTS: 0

Unique functional combination of service garage and motel within a single building. This property reflects the impact of the automobile in the Sand Hills region.

Historic Context: Services

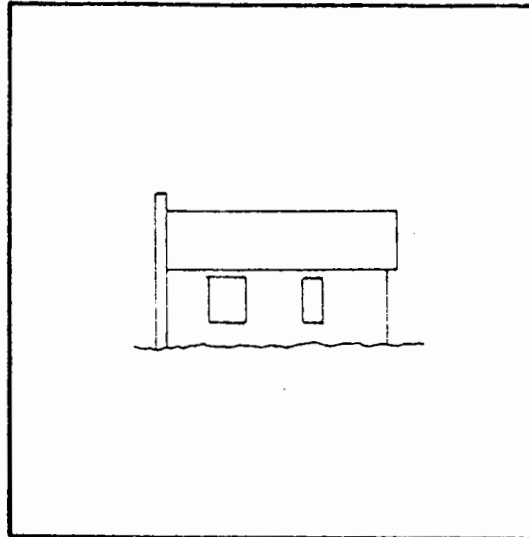
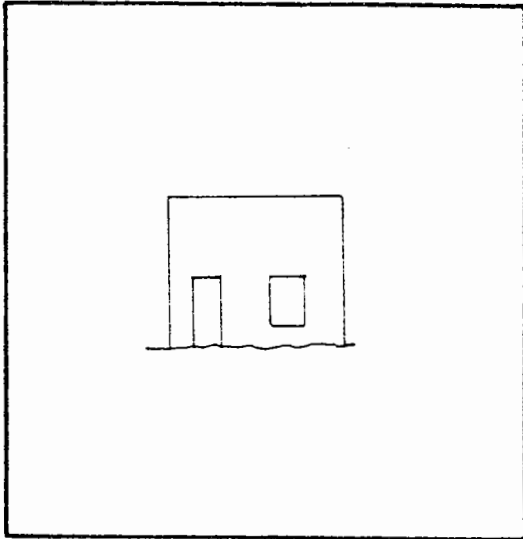
Primary support services provided or controlled by government, commonly viewed as necessities is the basis for topics and subtopics under the Historic Context of Service. In addition to public services such as health care or certain utilities, private professional services are also considered under this context. Some examples include the professional practice of architecture, insurance, or banking.

Nineteen Service related properties were documented by the reconnaissance level survey of Cherry County. Banks comprised close to 58% (11 of 19) of the total documented properties. The remaining properties consist of five utility related properties and three professional properties. The total number of documented properties fitting the context of Service are consistent in comparison to other counties in that a relatively low number of these types were recorded. The nature of service related entities does not lend itself to producing a large number of associated properties. For example, the smaller communities of Cherry County were capable of supporting the establishment of a limited number of banking institutions. Likewise, only one public or private utility company was adequate for supplying the limited demands of the more sparsely populated regions of the County. Consequently, it is not surprising that only 19 Service related properties were recorded out of the 517 properties recorded by the Historic Buildings Survey of Cherry County.

Of these nineteen properties, six were considered potentially eligible

for National Register listing and are illustrated in the Preliminary Inventory.

Bank buildings comprise five of the six potentially eligible properties. The sixth consists of a professional building (CE15-17).



NeHBS NUMBER: CE02-4

DATE: c.1910

RESOURCE NAME: Shockley Brother's Bank

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Service: (15.05)

PROPERTY TYPE: Bank (15.1.1)

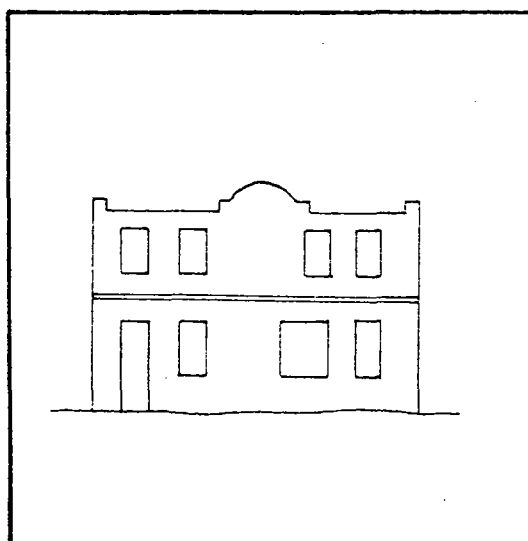
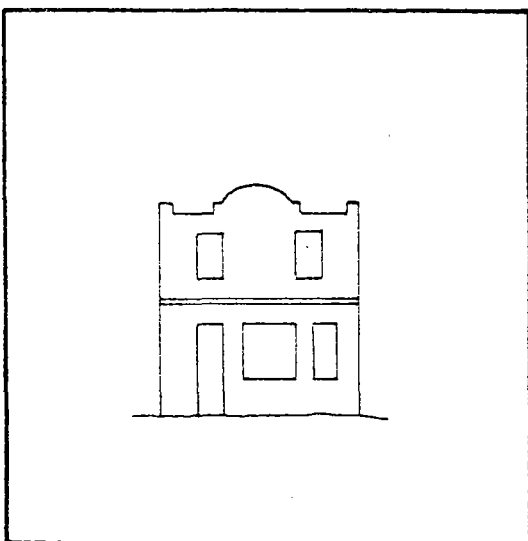
LOCATION: See Brownlee Plat Map

TOTAL CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS: 1 **STRUCTURES:** 0

SITES: 0

OBJECTS: 0

One-story frame bank indicative of the false front compositional building type and significant for its role in the economic development of Brownlee during the early twentieth-century.



NeHBS NUMBER: CE04-18

DATE: c.1920

RESOURCE NAME: Bank of Crookston

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Service: (15.05)

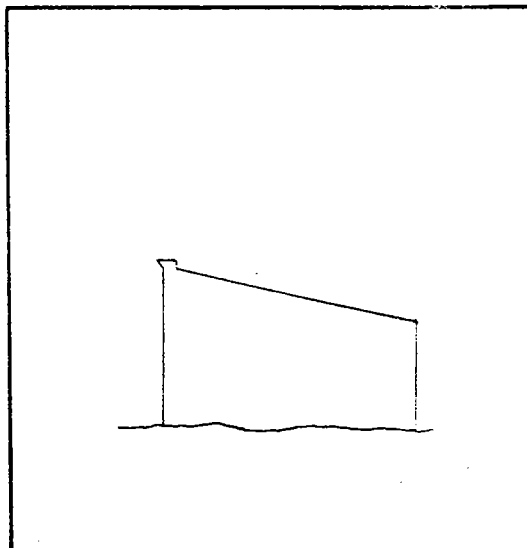
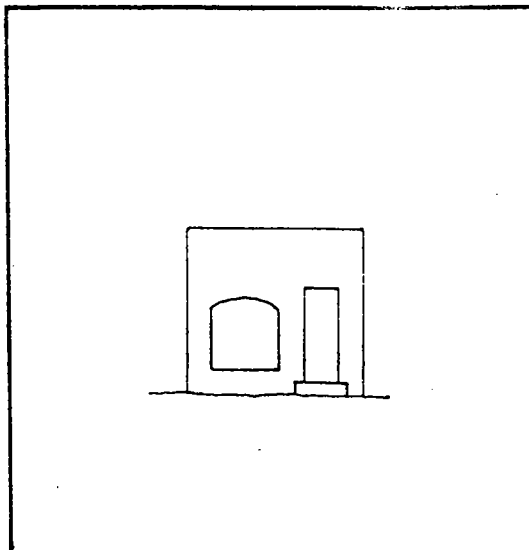
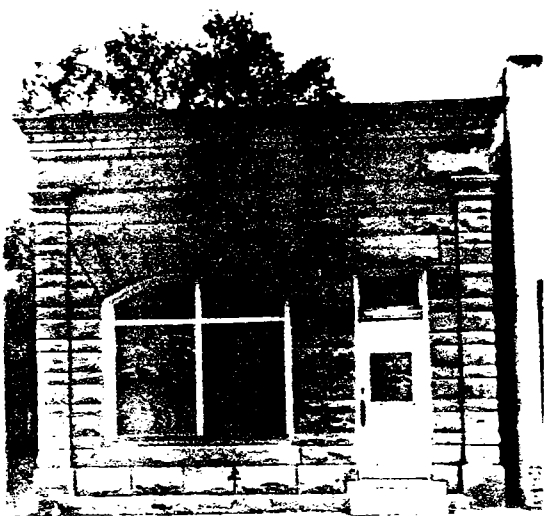
PROPERTY TYPE: Bank (15.1.1)

LOCATION: SEC Maple & 2nd Sts, Crookston

TOTAL CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS: 1 STRUCTURES: 0

SITES: 0 OBJECTS: 0

Two-story stucco bank with Spanish Revival stylistic detailing. Contributes to the historic character of Crookston's business district and to the Context of Banking in Cherry County.



NeHBS NUMBER: CE10-2

DATE: 1902

RESOURCE NAME: Anchor Bank

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Service: (15.05)

PROPERTY TYPE: Bank (15.1.1)

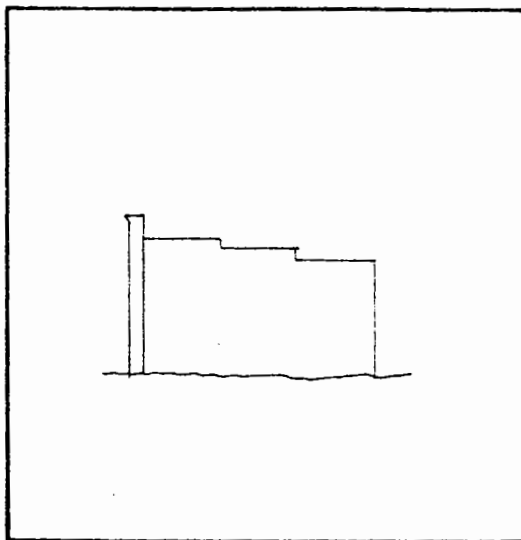
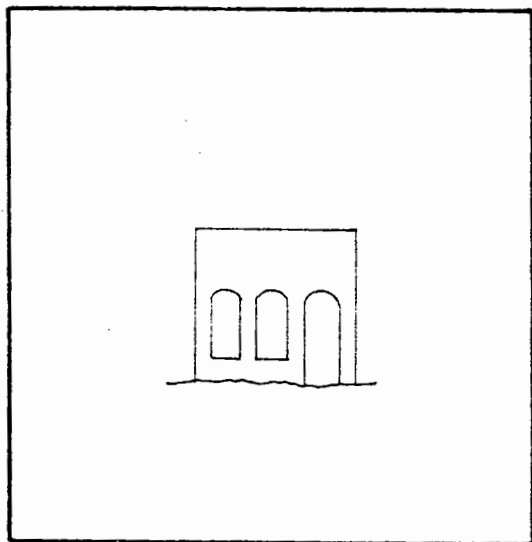
LOCATION: WS , Mills St bet. Hwy 20 & 1st St, Merriman

TOTAL CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS: 1 STRUCTURES: 0

SITES: 0

OBJECTS: 0

One-story stone bank building potentially significant for its role in the economic development of north-central Cherry County during the early twentieth-century.



NeHBS NUMBER: CE15-17

DATE: c.1915

COMMON NAME: Professional building

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Service: (15.04)

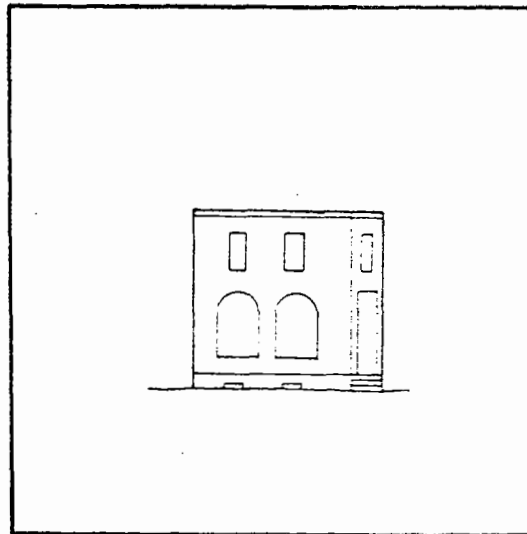
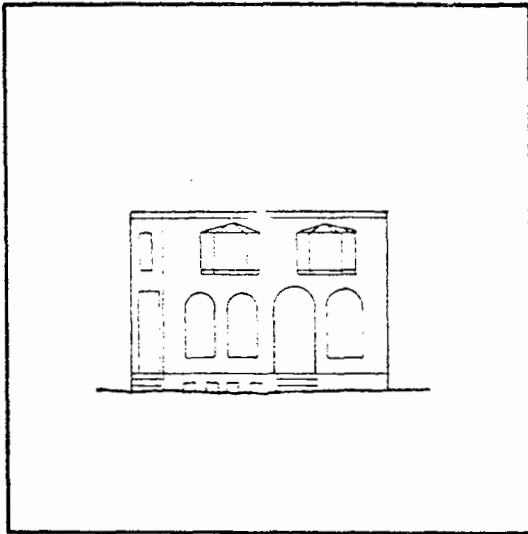
PROPERTY TYPE: Professional building (15.3)

LOCATION: ES Main bet. Dexter & Lake Sts, Wood Lake

TOTAL CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS: 1 **STRUCTURES:** 0

SITES: 0 **OBJECTS:** 0

Potential significance derived through use of Neoclassical design aesthetic and for association with the early twentieth-century economic development of Wood Lake.



NeHBS NUMBER: CE14-4

DATE: 1887

RESOURCE NAME: Cherry County Bank

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Service: (15.05)

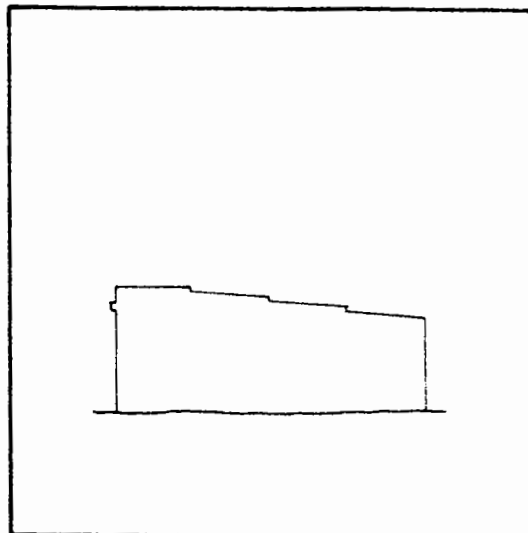
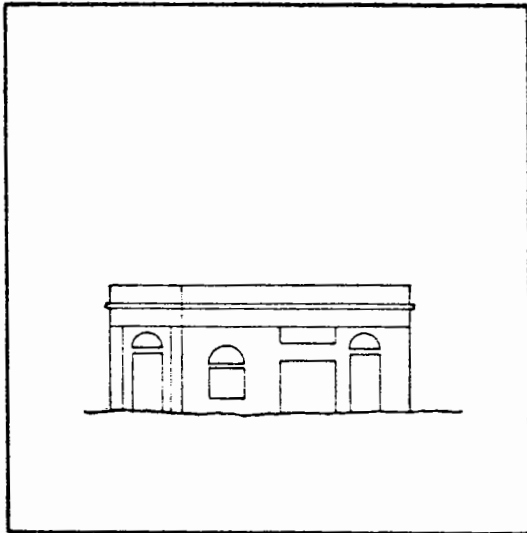
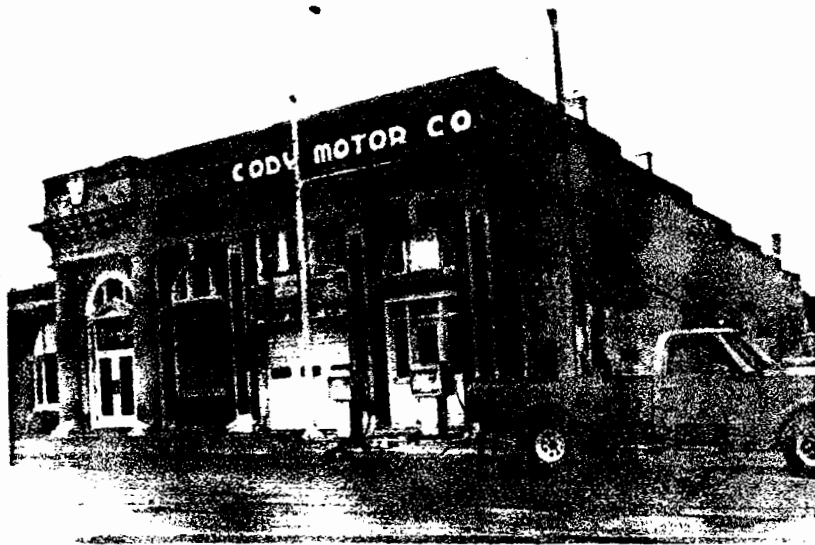
PROPERTY TYPE: Bank (15.5)

LOCATION: SWC 2nd & Main Sts, Valentine

TOTAL CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS: 1 STRUCTURES: 0

SITES: 0 OBJECTS: 0

Two-story stone and brick bank building potentially eligible for the National Register based on its role in the establishment of financial services during the late nineteenth-century settlement of Valentine.



NeHBS NUMBER: CE03-29

DATE: 1919

RESOURCE NAME: Bank of Cody

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Service: (15.05), Transportation: (13)

PROPERTY TYPE: Bank (15.1.1), Garage (13.3.3.4)

LOCATION: NS Nebraska bet. Cherry & Walnut Sts, Cody

TOTAL CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS: 1 **STRUCTURES:** 0

SITES: 0

OBJECTS: 0

Unique combination of bank, auto sales, and service garage within individual building. Potentially significant for use of Neoclassical stylistic details and for contributions to the financial industry of Cody.

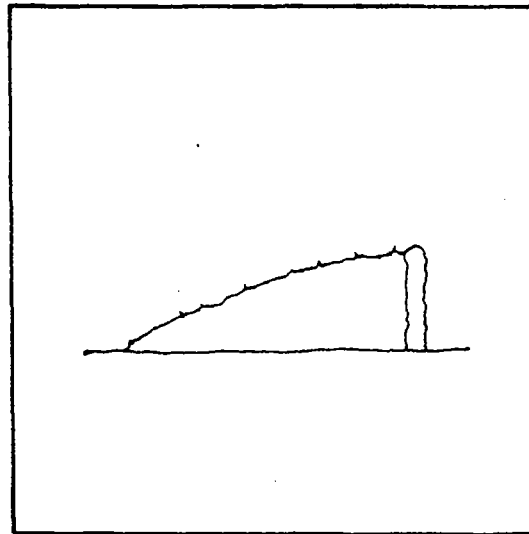
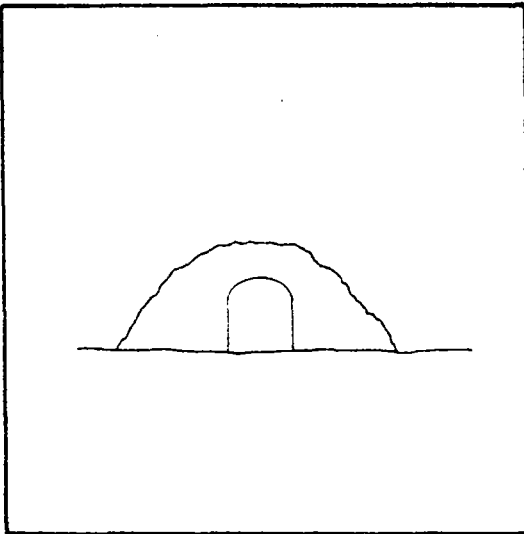
Historic Context: Settlement Systems

Settlement Systems is the broad contextual title encompassing the division, acquisition, and ownership of land. This theme contains all patterns generated through political, religious, or commercial activities to facilitate the establishment of cultural systems. Specific considerations include acquisition methods and use patterns of land as well as the spatial delineation of lands such as landscape architecture, hamlets, villages towns cities and rural systems.

Not surprisingly, this contextual theme contained the greatest number of documented historic properties within Cherry County. Of the 517 total properties documented in Cherry County, 230 or 45% fall within the theme of Settlement Systems. This percentage appears consistent with that of other northern Sand Hills counties within the study area. The retention of historic integrity that these 230 properties displayed was obviously quite varied. In some instances, the integrity had been severely compromised through later alterations or additions, while in other cases buildings were recorded which were extremely similar to their original condition. The era of construction for these properties was quite diverse as well. Construction dates appear to range from the first more crude homestead dwellings of the 1880's to the Bungalow types of the 1920's.

The majority of the 230 settlement system properties recorded in Cherry County appeared in two basic manifestations: 1) the simple, unadorned vernacular house, and 2) the Bungalow style house. The vernacular house type usually consisted of small scale rectangular or square-shaped frame

structures covered with exterior stucco sheathings and protected by gable or hip roofs. This house type was generally constructed during the early settlement period of 1884 to 1914. The Bungalow style houses appeared in both front-gable and side-gable versions and were considerably larger in scale than the vernacular houses. The general period of construction for these buildings ranged from 1915 to 1929. Noticeably absent from the pool of settlement system properties of Cherry County were the so-called "High Style" houses. With the exception of the Bungalow style house, none of the properties recorded in Cherry County contained dwellings employing the popular architectural styles of the late nineteenth and early twentieth-century such as Italianate, Shingle, Victorian, and Queen Anne.



NeHBS NUMBER: CE00-52

DATE: 1891

COMMON NAME: Dugout/Cellar

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Settlement Systems: (16.01)

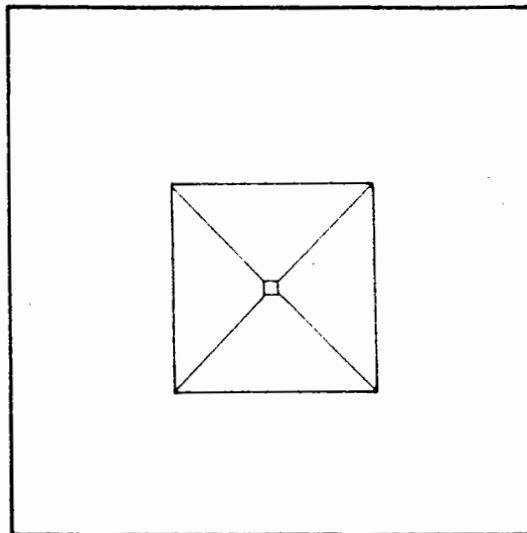
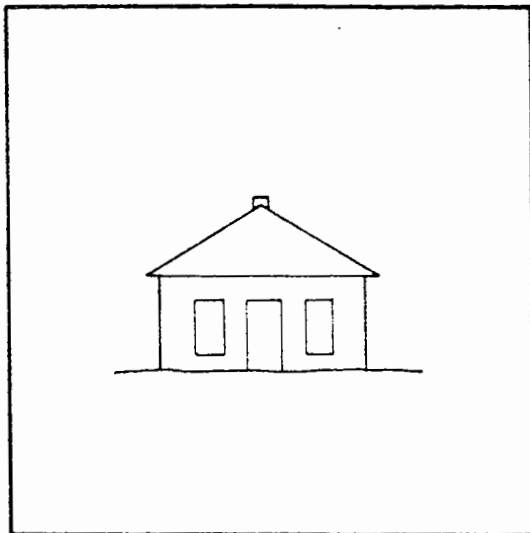
PROPERTY TYPE: Dwelling (16.5)

LOCATION: SW1/4, SW1/4, Sec. 29, T.35N, R.28W

TOTAL CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS: 1 STRUCTURES: 0

SITES: 0 OBJECTS: 0

Potentially eligible for the National Register based on its association with the initial white settlement period in Cherry County and for the exceptional retention of historic integrity.



NeHBS NUMBER: CE00-73

DATE: c.1885

COMMON NAME: House (Abandoned)

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Settlement Systems: (16.01)

PROPERTY TYPE: Single Family Dwelling (16.5.1)

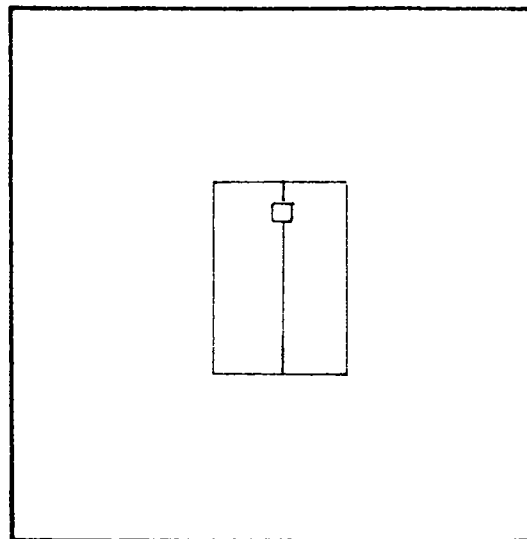
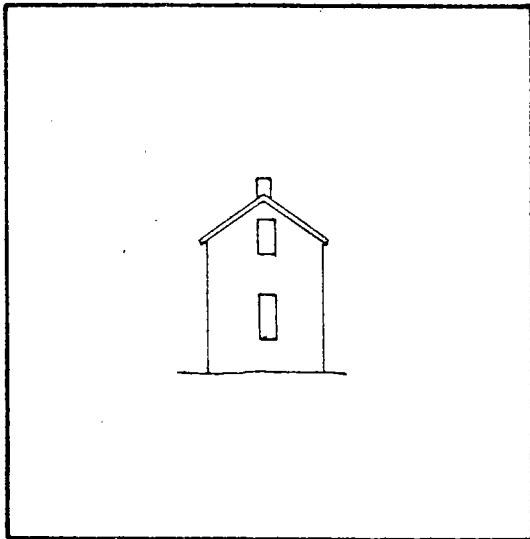
LOCATION: NE1/4, SW1/4, Sec. 36, T.32N, R.32W

TOTAL CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS: 5 **STRUCTURES:** 0

SITES: 0 **OBJECTS:** 0

One-story crude cement block house located adjacent the Niobrara River. Potentially significant as a representative of homestead settlement in Cherry County during the late nineteenth-century.





NeHBS NUMBER: CE00-75

DATE: 1885

RESOURCE NAME: John Wilson Log House

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Settlement Systems: (16.01)

PROPERTY TYPE: Single Family Dwelling (16.5.1)

LOCATION: SW1/4, NW1/4, Sec. 34, T.33N, R.31N

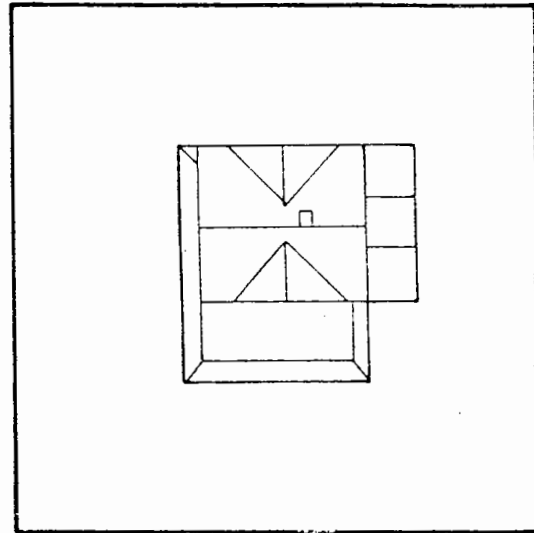
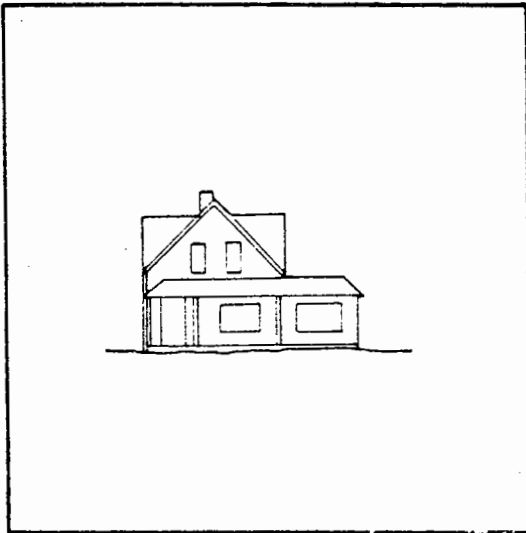
TOTAL CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS: 3 **STRUCTURES:** 0

SITES: 0

OBJECTS: 0

Located adjacent the Niobrara River, this one and one-half story log house was judged potentially significant as a representative of the initial white settlement period in Cherry County.





NeHBS NUMBER: CE03-27

DATE: c.1910

COMMON NAME: House

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Settlement Systems: (16.01)

PROPERTY TYPE: Single Family Dwelling (16.5.1)

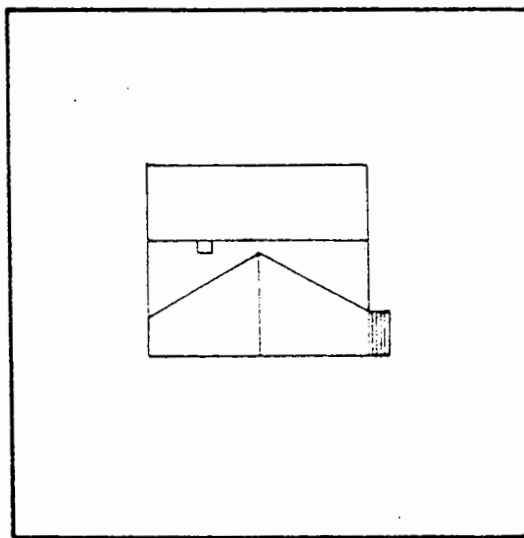
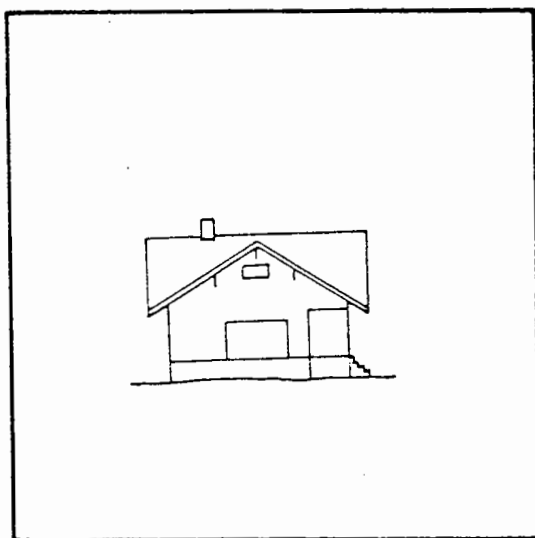
LOCATION: NWC Walnut & Nebraska Sts, Cody

TOTAL CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS: 3 STRUCTURES: 0

SITES: 0 OBJECTS: 2

Included in the Preliminary Inventory as a well preserved example of early twentieth-century town development and for possible associations with significant persons.





NeHBS NUMBER: CE03-35

DATE: c.1922

COMMON NAME: House

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Settlement Systems: (16.01)

PROPERTY TYPE: Single Family Dwelling (16.5.1)

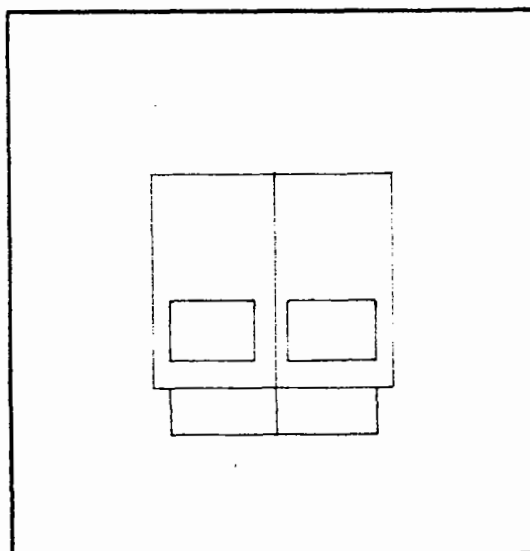
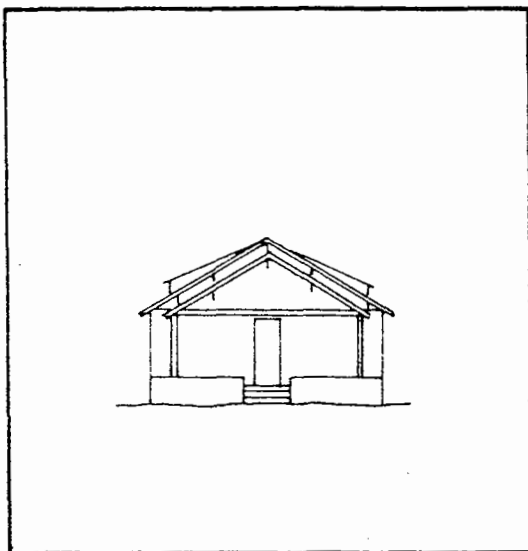
LOCATION: ES Ann bet. Washington & Nebraska Sts, Cody

TOTAL CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS: 5 STRUCTURES: 0

SITES: 0 OBJECTS: 1

Potentially eligible for the National Register as a fine example of Craftsman Style Architecture. House and outbuildings retain a high degree of historic integrity.





NeHBS NUMBER: CE15-27

DATE: c.1910

COMMON NAME: House

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Settlement Systems: (16.01)

PROPERTY TYPE: Single Family Dwelling

LOCATION: SEC Corporation & Main Sts, Wood Lake

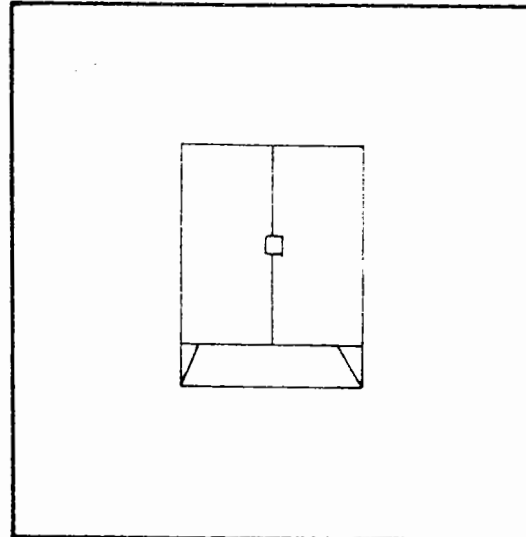
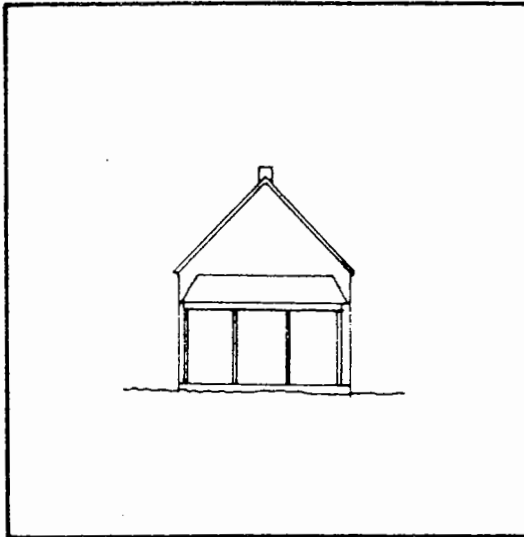
TOTAL CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS: 3 STRUCTURES: 0

SITES: 0

OBJECTS: 0

Included in the Preliminary Inventory as well preserved example of early residential development in Wood Lake. This Craftsman Style house retains a high degree of historic integrity.





NeHBS NUMBER: CE14-50

DATE: c.1905

COMMON NAME: House

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Settlement Systems: (16.01)

PROPERTY TYPE: Single Family Dwelling (16.5.1)

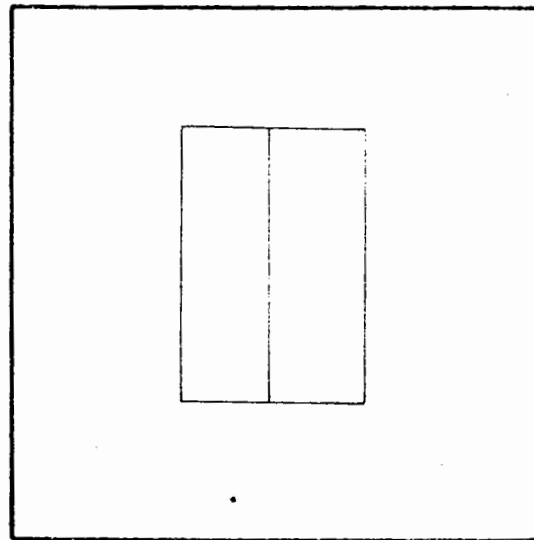
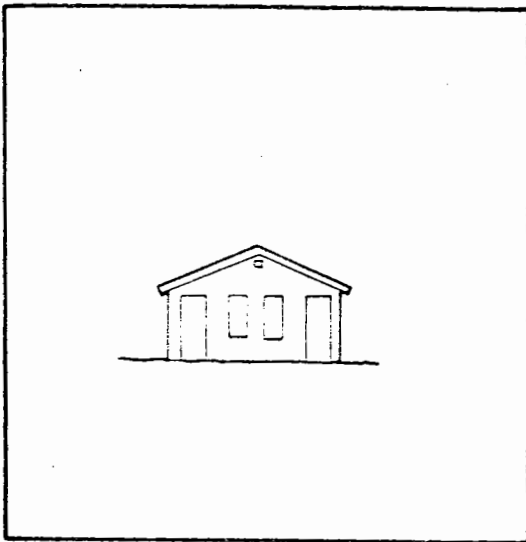
LOCATION: 423 N. Macomb St, Valentine

TOTAL CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS: 2 **STRUCTURES:** 0

SITES: 0 **OBJECTS:** 0

Potentially significant as a well-preserved example of an early twentieth-century gable front vernacular house.





NeHBS NUMBER: CE14-58

DATE: c.1910

COMMON NAME: House

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Settlement Systems: (16.01)

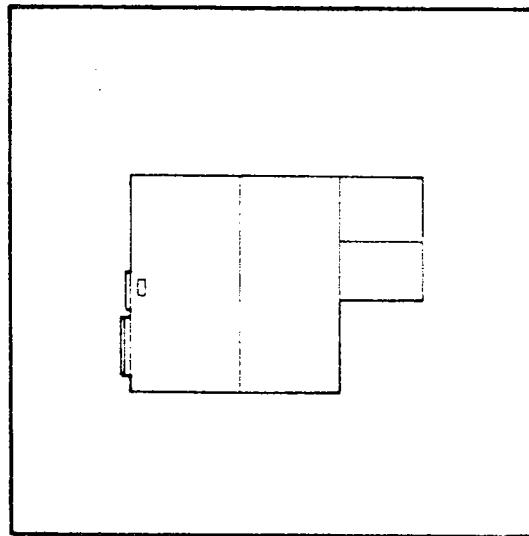
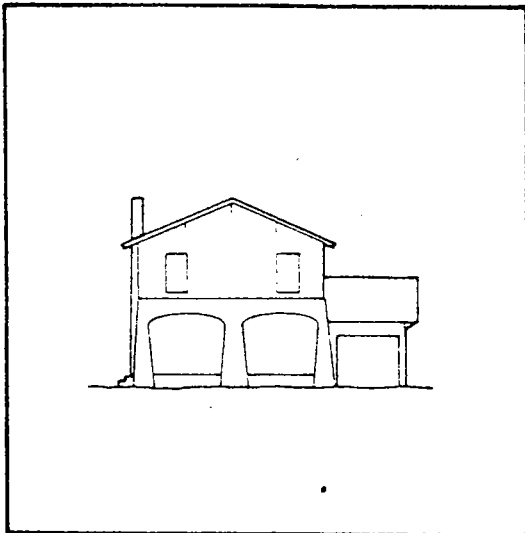
PROPERTY TYPE: Duplex (16.5.3.1)

LOCATION: WS N Macomb bet. 2nd & 3rd Sts, Valentine

TOTAL CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS: 1 STRUCTURES: 0

SITES: 0 OBJECTS: 0

One-story vernacular duplex included in the Preliminary Inventory as an example of a multi-family property type built during the early twentieth-century expansion of Valentine.



NeHBS NUMBER: CE14-76

DATE: c.1925

COMMON NAME: House

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Settlement Systems: (16.01)

PROPERTY TYPE: Single Family Dwelling (16.5.1)

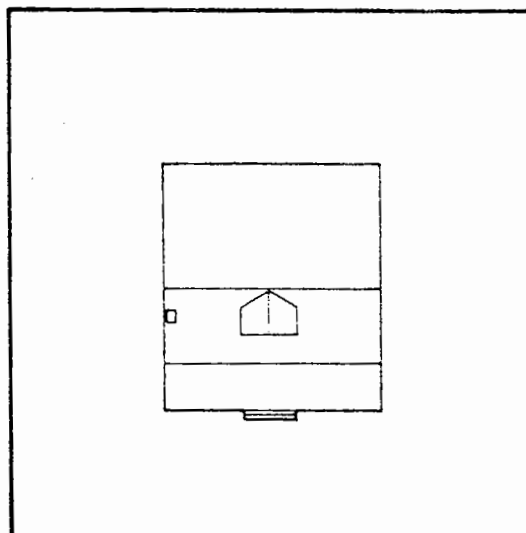
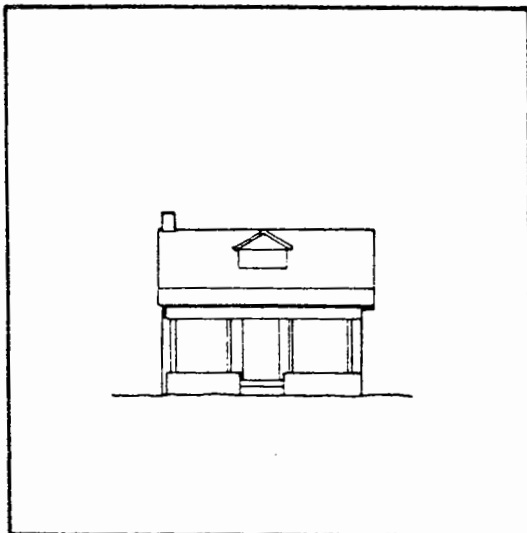
LOCATION: 601 N Hall St, Valentine

TOTAL CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS: 2 STRUCTURES: 0

SITES: 0 OBJECTS: 0

Potentially eligible for the National Register based on its association with the post-settlement expansion of Valentine. Executed in the Craftsman Style, this property has retained its original integrity.





NeHBS NUMBER: CE14-81

DATE: c.1918

RESOURCE NAME: J. D. Hancock House

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Settlement Systems: (16.01)

PROPERTY TYPE: Single Family Dwelling (16.5.1)

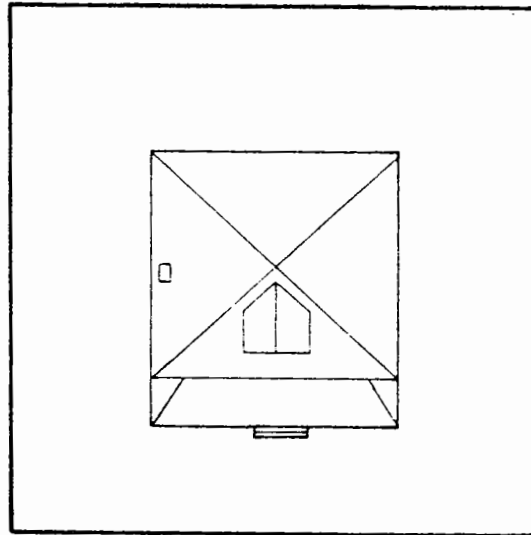
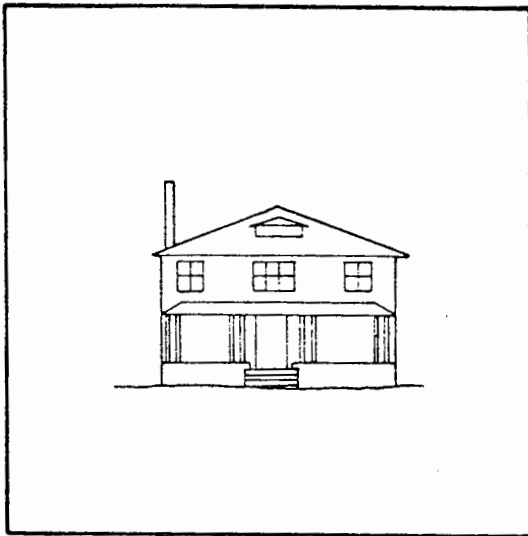
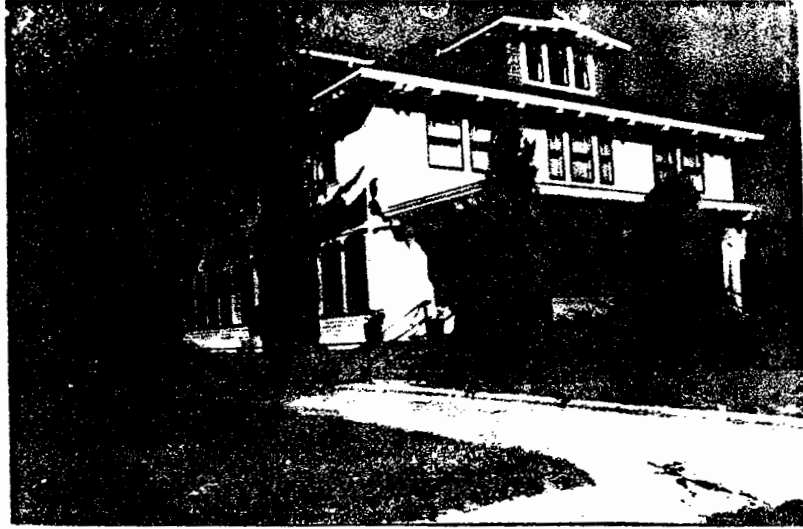
LOCATION: 555 N. Main St., Valentine.

TOTAL CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS: 2 STRUCTURES: 0

SITES: 0 OBJECTS: 0

Included in the Preliminary Inventory as a well-preserved masonry example of the Bungalow style house and for possible association with significant persons.





NeHBS NUMBER: CE14-82

DATE: 1916

RESOURCE NAME: John Bachelor House

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Settlement Systems: (16.01)

PROPERTY TYPE: Single Family Dwelling (16.5.1)

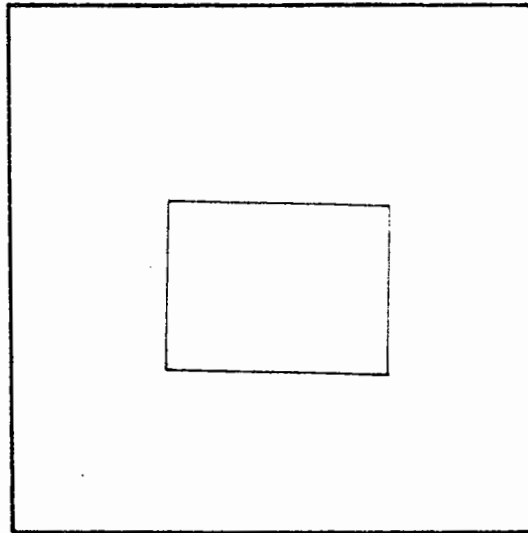
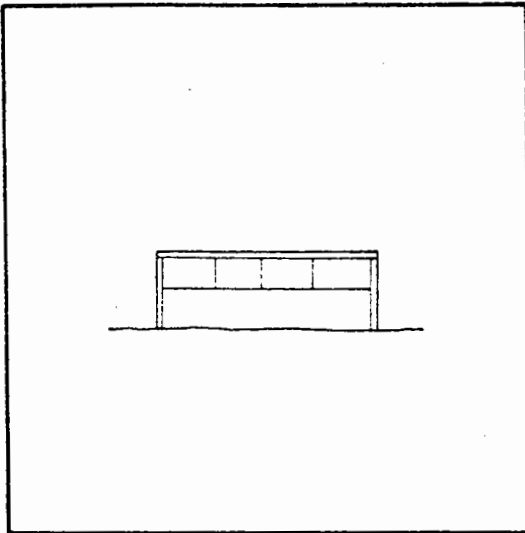
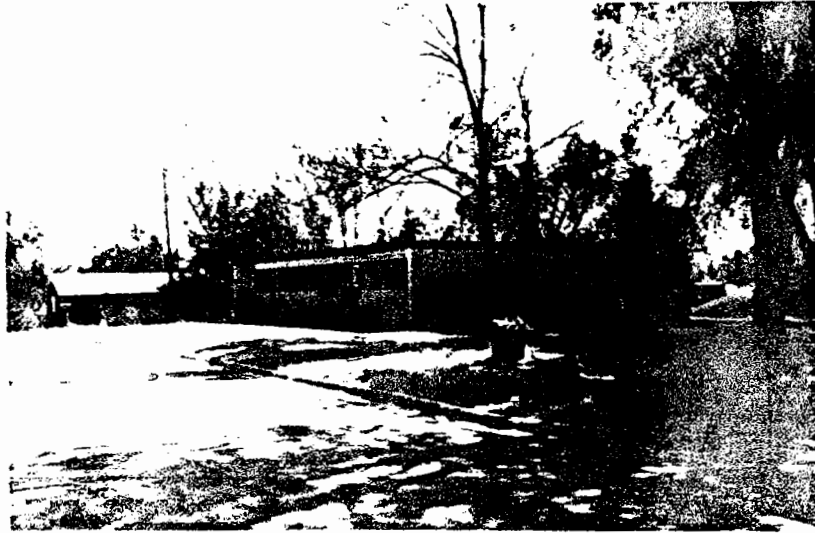
LOCATION: 525 N Main St, Valentine

TOTAL CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS: 2 STRUCTURES: 0

SITES: 0 OBJECTS: 0

Two-story frame home of prominent local citizen, John J. Bachelor. House constructed from plans designed by Omaha, Nebraska architect John McDonald.





NeHBS NUMBER: CE14-123

DATE: c.1950

COMMON NAME: House

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Settlement Systems: (16.01)

PROPERTY TYPE: Single Family Dwelling

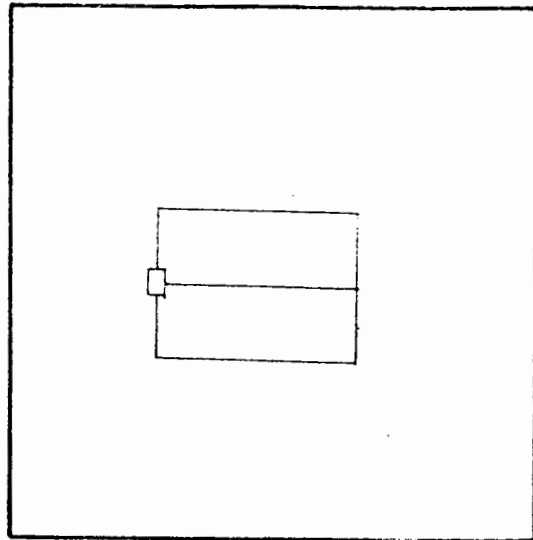
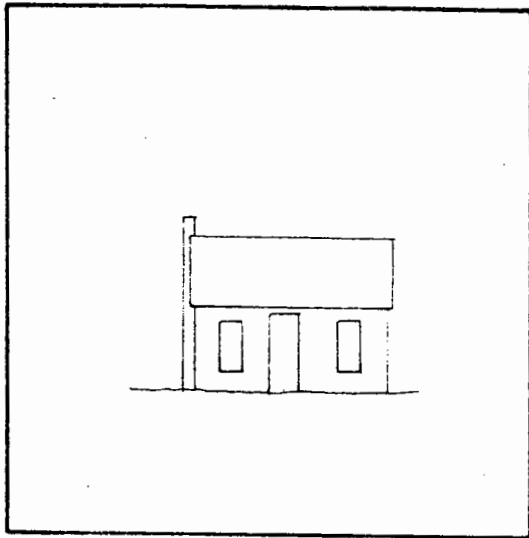
LOCATION: SEC N Wood & 8th Sts, Valentine

TOTAL CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS: 1 STRUCTURES: 0

SITES: 0 OBJECTS: 0

Included in the Preliminary Inventory as a rare example of an International Style house in Valentine. Represents modern lifestyles of the middle twentieth-century.





NeHBS NUMBER: CE14-142

DATE: c.1900

COMMON NAME: House

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Settlement Systems: (16.03)

PROPERTY TYPE: Single Family Dwelling (16.5.1)

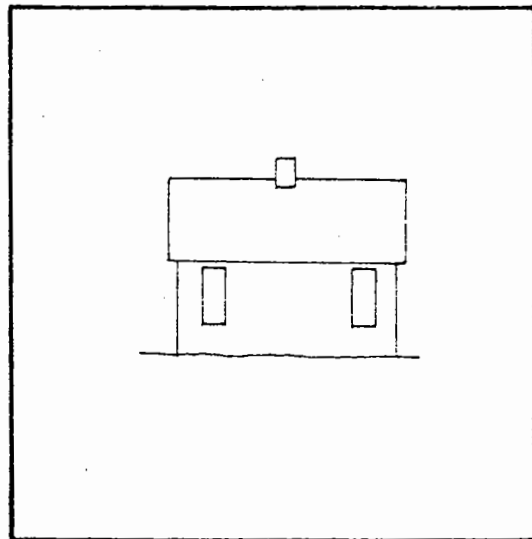
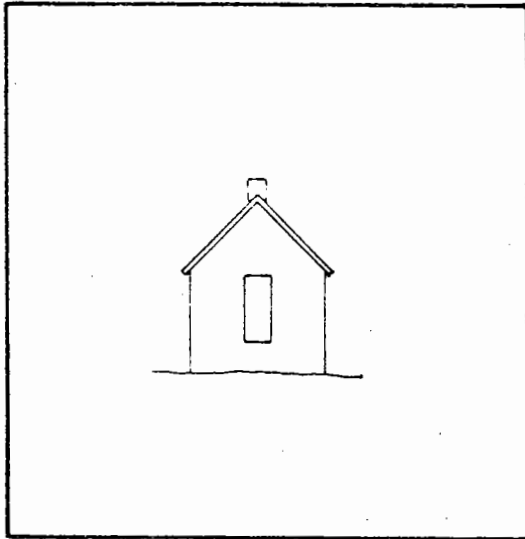
LOCATION: 427 W. 2nd St., Valentine.

TOTAL CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS: 1 STRUCTURES: 0

SITES: 0 OBJECTS: 0

Potential significance derived through an association with the numerically significant Supratype 9 house form.





NeHBS NUMBER: CE00-34

DATE: c.1890

COMMON NAME: House

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Settlement Systems: (16.3)

PROPERTY TYPE: Single Family Dwelling (16.5.1)

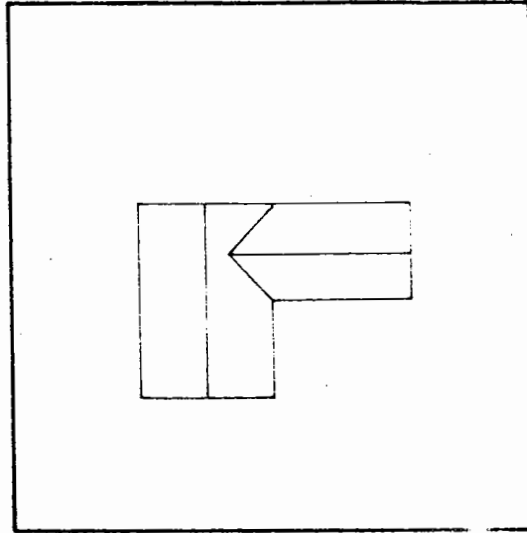
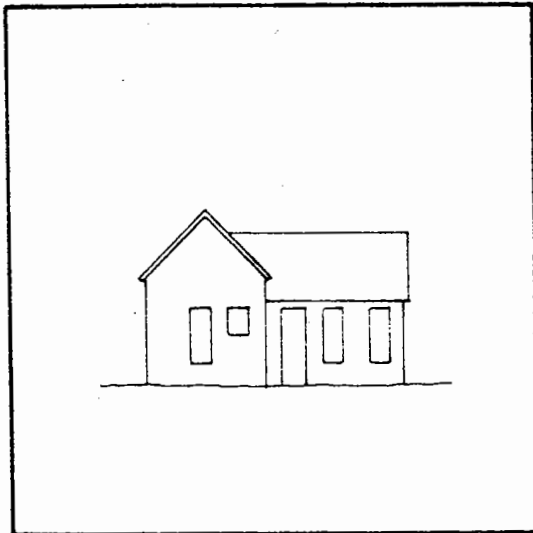
LOCATION: NW 1/4, NW 1/4, Sec. 20, T. 35 N., R. 26 W.

TOTAL CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS: 4 STRUCTURES: 0

SITES: 0 OBJECTS: 2

Potentially significant as a representative of the numerically significant Supratype 9 house form.





NeHBS NUMBER: CE14-78

DATE: c.1910

COMMON NAME: House

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Settlement Systems: (16.3)

PROPERTY TYPE: Single Family Dwellings: (16.5.1)

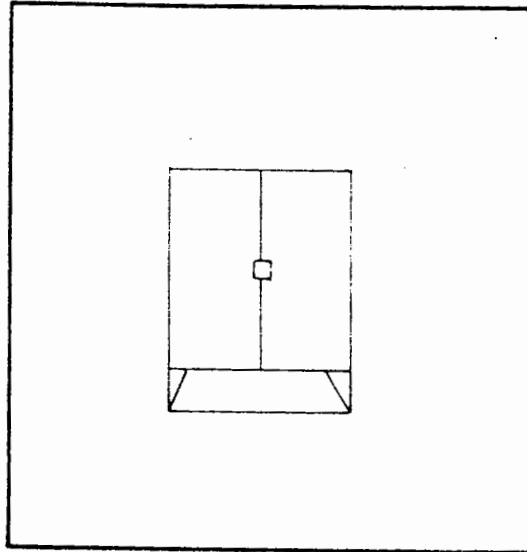
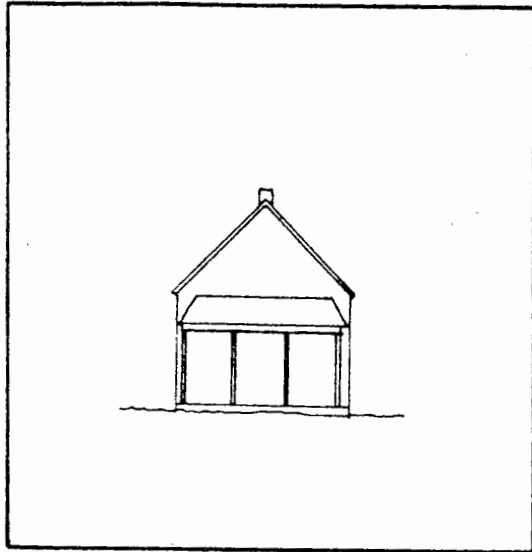
LOCATION: NEC N. Hall & 7th Sts., Valentine.

TOTAL CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS: 1 STRUCTURES: 0

SITES: 0 OBJECTS: 0

Potentially significant as a representative of the numerically significant Supratype 10 house form.





NeHBS NUMBER: CE15-37

DATE: c.1900

COMMON NAME: House

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Settlement Systems: (16.3)

PROPERTY TYPE: Single Family Dwelling: (16.5.1)

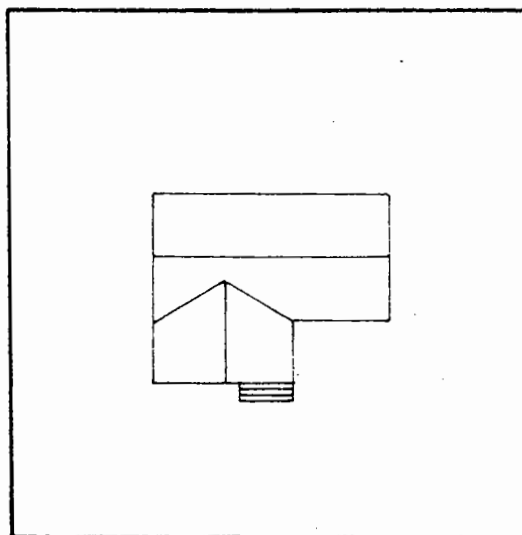
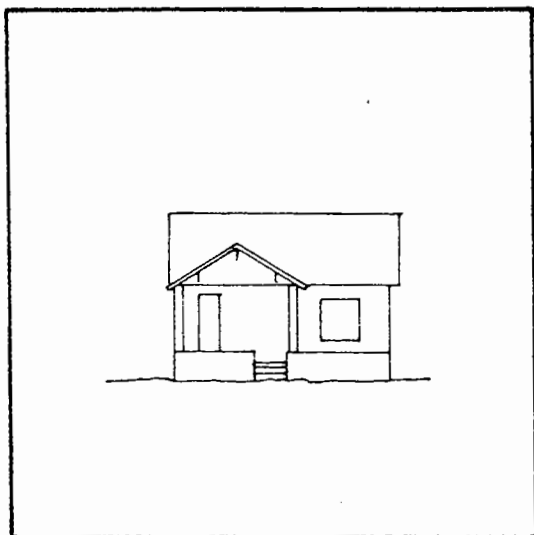
LOCATION: NWC Highway 20 & Chestnut St., Wood Lake.

TOTAL CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS: 1 STRUCTURES: 0

SITES: 0 OBJECTS: 0

One-story frame house potentially significant as an example of the numerically significant Supertype 10 house form.





NeHBS NUMBER: CE09-2

DATE: c.1920

COMMON NAME: House

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Settlement Systems: (16.3)

PROPERTY TYPE: Single Family Dwellings: (16.5.1)

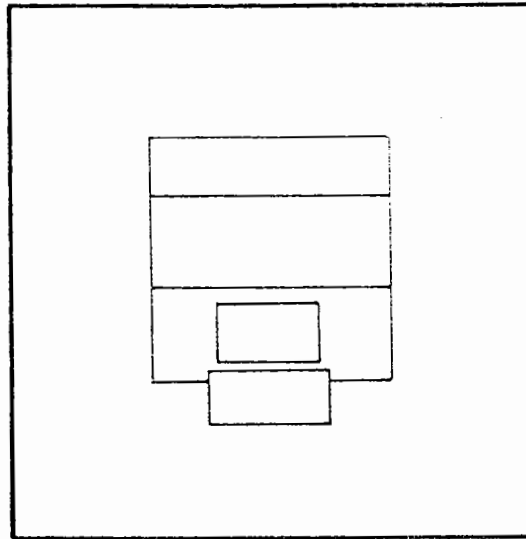
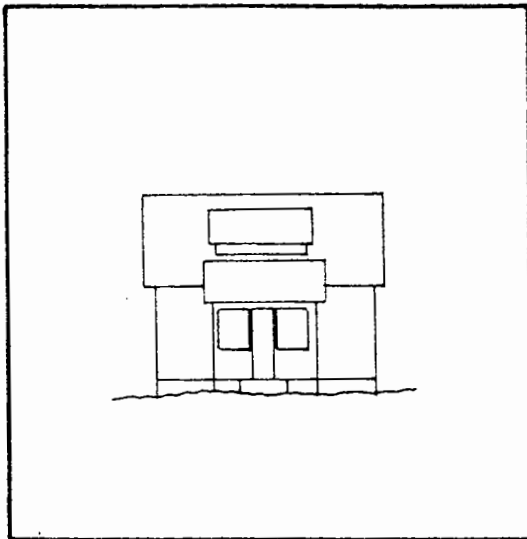
LOCATION: NWC Iowa & Ripley Sts., Kilgore.

TOTAL CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS: 3 **STRUCTURES:** 0

SITES: 0 **OBJECTS:** 0

One-story frame Craftsman type house significant as a representative of the numerically significant Supratype 20 house form.





NeHBS NUMBER: CE10-32

DATE: c.1912

COMMON NAME: House

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Settlement Systems: (16.3)

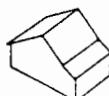
PROPERTY TYPE: Single Family Dwellings: (16.5.1)

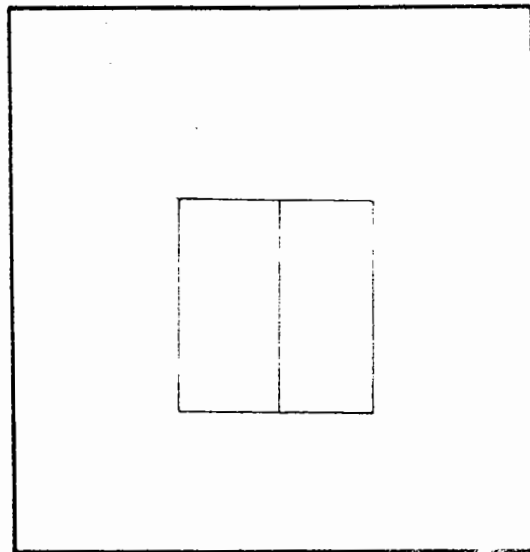
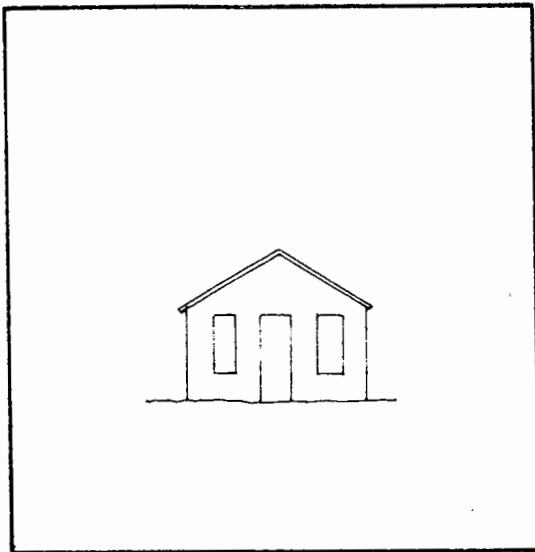
LOCATION: Lot 1, Block 10, Roberts 2nd Addn., Merriman.

TOTAL CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS: 1 **STRUCTURES:** 0

SITES: 0 **OBJECTS:** 0

One-story frame house included in the inventory as a representative of the numerically significant Supratype 20 house form.





NeHBS NUMBER: CE05-4

DATE: c.1888

COMMON NAME: House

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Settlement Systems: (16.3)

PROPERTY TYPE: Single Family Dwelling: (16.5.1)

LOCATION: ES Heckel bet. Dexter & old Highway 20, Eli.

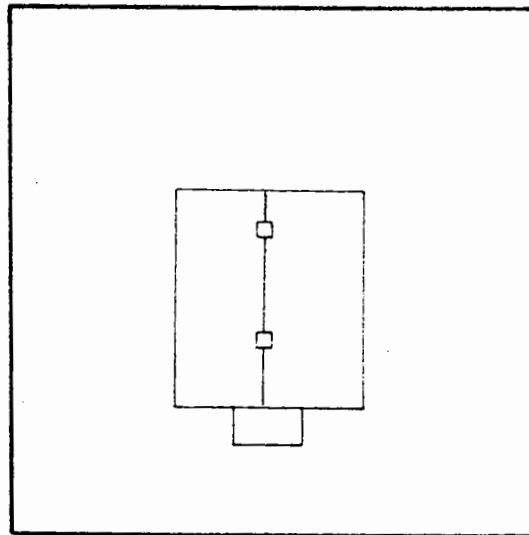
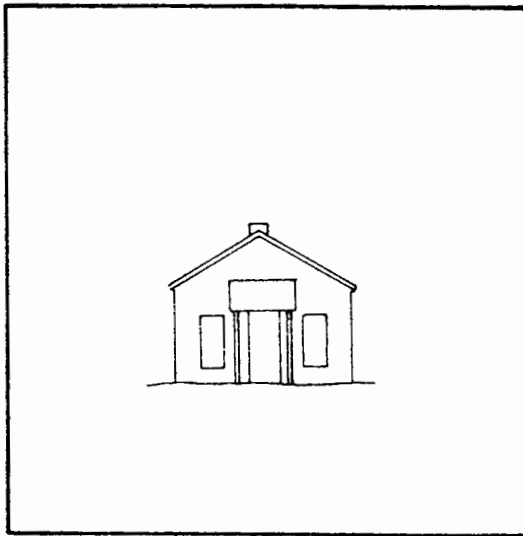
TOTAL CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS: 2 STRUCTURES: 0

SITES: 0

OBJECTS: 0

Late nineteenth-century one-story frame house included in the inventory as an example of the numerically significant Supratype 21 house form.





NeHBS NUMBER: CE15-4

DATE: c.1900

COMMON NAME: House

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Settlement Systems: (16.3)

PROPERTY TYPE: Single Family Dwellings: (16.5.1)

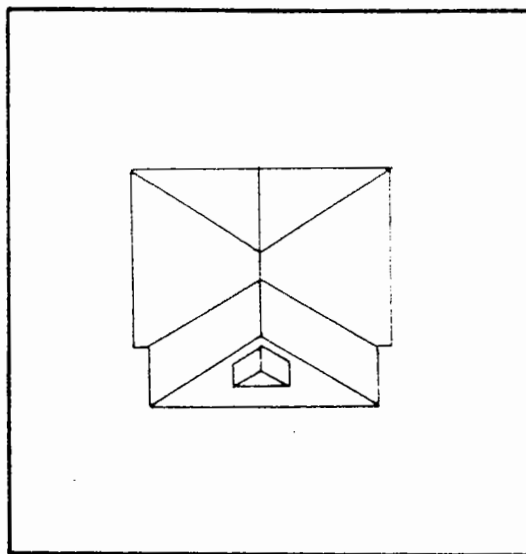
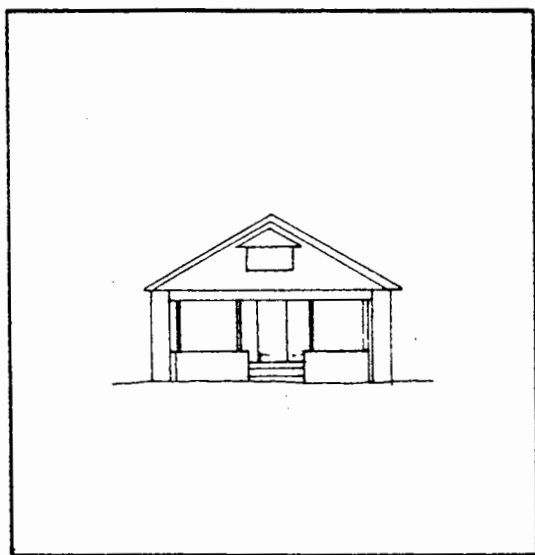
LOCATION: NEC Cherry & Chicago Sts., Wood Lake.

TOTAL CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS: 3 STRUCTURES: 0

SITES: 0 OBJECTS: 0

One-story frame house chosen as a turn-of-the-century example of the numerically significant Supratype 21 house form.





NeHBS NUMBER: CE14-85

DATE: c.1914

COMMON NAME: House

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Settlement Systems: (16.3)

PROPERTY TYPE: Single Family Dwellings: (16.5.1)

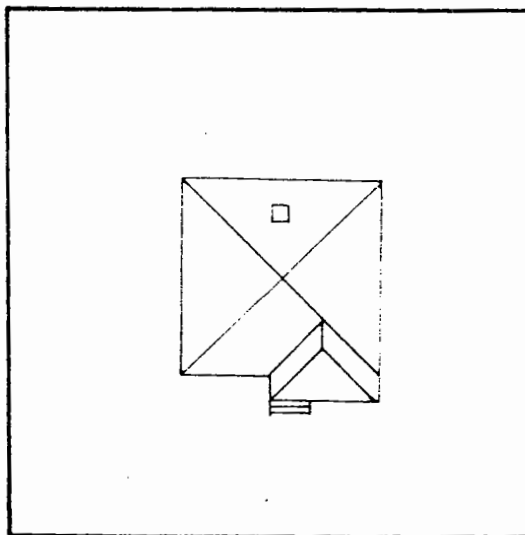
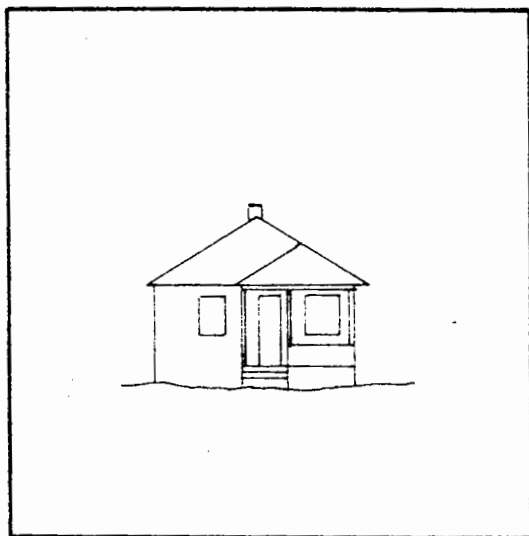
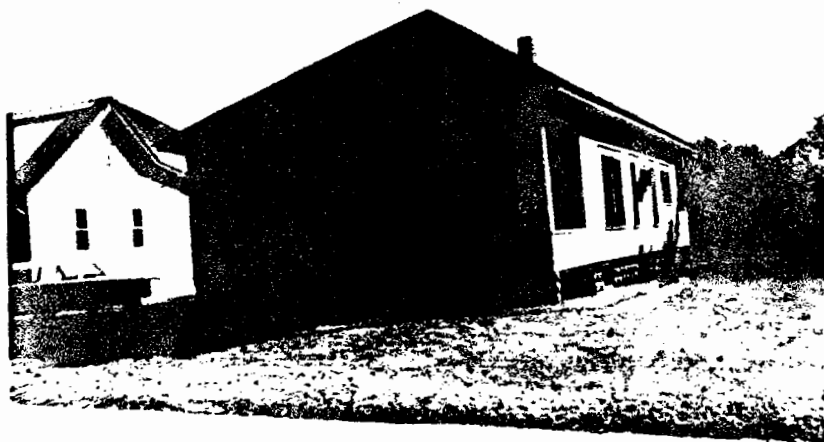
LOCATION: 455 N. Main St., Valentine.

TOTAL CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS: 2 **STRUCTURES:** 0

SITES: 0 **OBJECTS:** 0

One-story frame house chosen as a well-preserved early twentieth-century example of the numerically significant Supratype 26 house form.





NeHBS NUMBER: CE14-86

DATE: c.1910

COMMON NAME: House

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Settlement Systems: (16.3)

PROPERTY TYPE: Single Family Dwellings: (16.5.1)

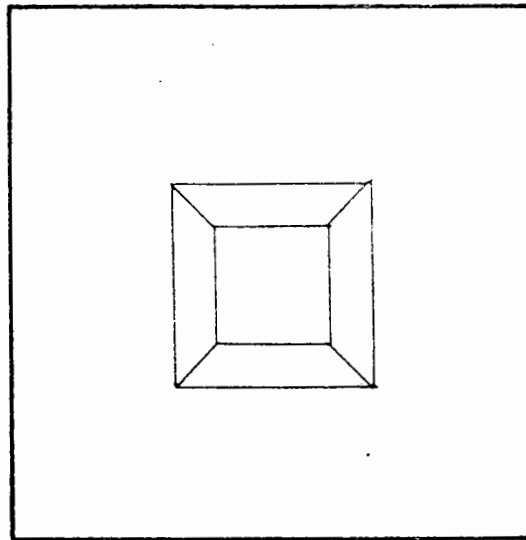
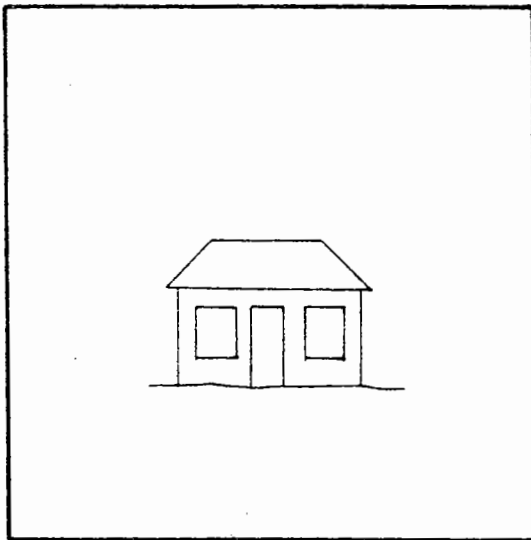
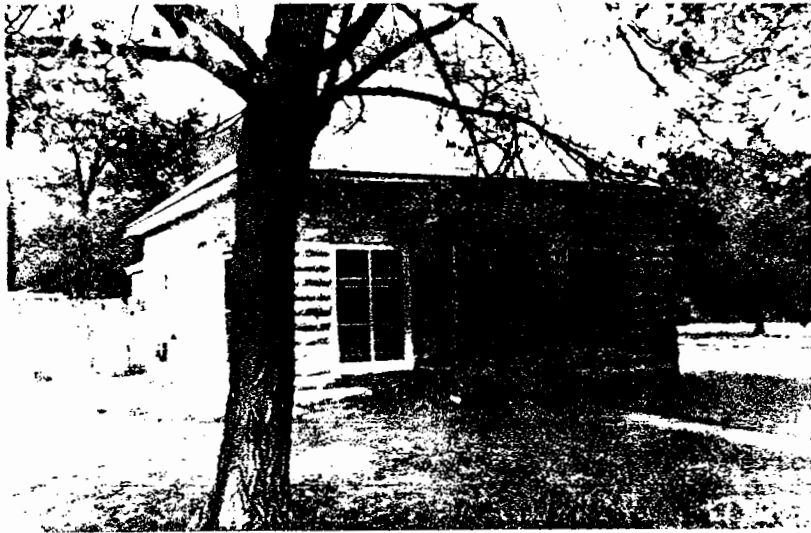
LOCATION: 460 N. Main St., Valentine.

TOTAL CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS: 1 **STRUCTURES:** 0

SITES: 0 **OBJECTS:** 0

One-story frame house included in the inventory as an early twentieth-century example of the numerically significant Supratype 26 house form.





NeHBS NUMBER: CE14-42

DATE: c.1905

COMMON NAME: House

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Settlement Systems: (16.3)

PROPERTY TYPE: Single Family Dwellings: (16.5.1)

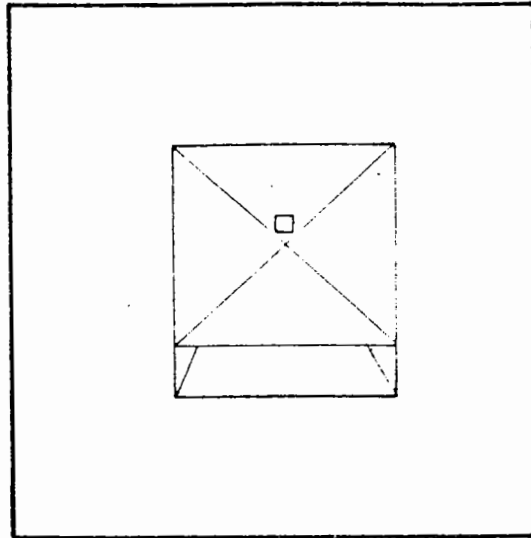
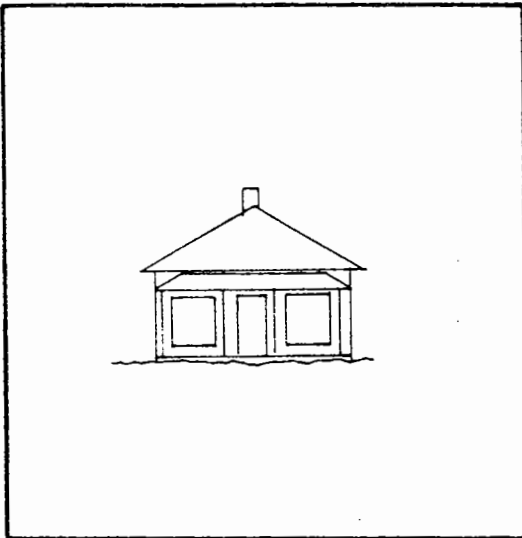
LOCATION: 401 E. 5th St., Valentine.

TOTAL CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS: 1 STRUCTURES: 0

SITES: 0 OBJECTS: 0

One-story concrete block house potentially significant as an example of the numerically significant Supratype 47 house form and for the early local use of concrete block masonry construction.





NeHBS NUMBER: CE14-152

DATE: c.1910

COMMON NAME: House

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Settlement Systems: (16.3)

PROPERTY TYPE: Single Family Dwellings: (16.5.1)

LOCATION: 313 W. 2nd St., Valentine.

TOTAL CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS: 2 STRUCTURES: 0

SITES: 0 OBJECTS: 0

One-story frame house included in the Preliminary Inventory as a well-preserved early twentieth-century example of the numerically significant Supratype 47 house form.



SECOND PRIORITY PROPERTIES OF CHERRY COUNTY

NeHBS NUMBER	DATE	RESOURCE/Common NAME	RESOURCE TYPE	HISTORIC CONTEXT	PROPERTY TYPE
CE03-13	1904	HUNT'S CHAPEL, M.E. CHURCH	BUILDING	02	02.4.1
CE03-9	c.1936	ADAMSON COMMUNITY HALL	BUILDING	04	04.1.5.2
CE10-5	c.1915	FIRE STATION	BUILDING	04	04.2.2
CE10-6	c.1900	COMMUNITY HALL	BUILDING	04	04.1.5.3
CE00-139	c.1925	SCHOOLHOUSE	BUILDING	06	06.3.1
CE00-149	c.1915	SCHOOLHOUSE	BUILDING	06	06.3.1
CE00-150	c.1920	SCHOOLHOUSE	BUILDING	06	06.3.1
CE00-175	c.1910	ABANDONED SCHOOLHOUSE	BUILDING	06	06.3.1
CE00-208	c.1905	SCHOOLHOUSE	BUILDING	06	06.3.1
CE00-148	c.1920	RANCH	DISTRICT	08	08.1
CE00-163	c.1890	ABANDONED RANCH	DISTRICT	08	16.5
CE00-166	c.1905	RANCH	DISTRICT	08	08.1
CE00-172	c.1905	RANCH	DISTRICT	08	08.1
CE00-218	c.1905	ABANDONED RANCH	DISTRICT	08	08.1
CE00-220	c.1915	ABANDONED RANCH	DISTRICT	08	08.1
CE10-29	c.1905	LUMBER YARD	BUILDING	11	11.4.2.1
CE03-10	c.1910	COMMERCIAL BUILDING	BUILDING	12	12.1
CE04-21	c.1910	COMMERCIAL BUILDING	BUILDING	12	12.1
CE09-17	c.1905	COMMERCIAL BUILDING	BUILDING	12	12.1
CE10-4	c.1900	COMMERCIAL BUILDING	BUILDING	12	12.1
CE15-21	1909	COMMERCIAL BUILDING	BUILDING	12	12.1
CE14-59	c.1920	FORMER MOTEL	BUILDING	12	12.3.2
CE14-98	c.1915	FORMER HOTEL	BUILDING	12	12.3.1
CE14-157	1950	COMMERCIAL BLDG./SOCIAL HALL	BUILDING	12, 05	12.1
CE03-37	c.1930	ABANDONED GAS STATION	BUILDING	13	13.3.3.3
CE10-25	c.1925	ABANDONED GAS STATION	BUILDING	13	13.3.3.3
CE15-28	c.1908	GARAGE	BUILDING	13	13.3.2.7
CE14-155	c.1950	AUTOMOBILE SHOWROOM	BUILDING	13	13.3.3.9
CE03-25	c.1890	RAILROAD SECTION HOUSE	BUILDING	13,16	16.5
CE03-26	c.1890	RAILROAD SECTION HOUSE	BUILDING	13,16	16.5

CE04-15	1918	FARMERS STATE BANK	BUILDING	15	15.1.1
CE09-12	c.1910	POWER BUILDING	BUILDING	15	15.5
CE03-1	c.1900	ABANDONED HOUSE	BUILDING	16	16.5
CE03-3	c.1925	HOUSE	BUILDING	16	16.5
CE03-31	c.1907	HOUSE	BUILDING	16	16.5
CE03-34	c.1910	HOUSE	BUILDING	16	16.5
CE03-39	c.1907	HOUSE	BUILDING	16	16.5
CE09-9	c.1910	HOUSE	BUILDING	16	16.5
CE10-10	c.1890	HOUSE	BUILDING	16	16.5
CE10-21	c.1910	HOUSE	BUILDING	16	16.5
CE10-22	c.1910	HOUSE	BUILDING	16	16.5
CE10-28	c.1918	HOUSE	BUILDING	16	16.5
CE15-12	c.1908	HOUSE	BUILDING	16	16.5
CE15-23	c.1890	HOUSE	BUILDING	16	16.5
CE15-25	c.1890	ABANDONED HOUSE	BUILDING	16	16.5
CE14-84	c.1910	HOUSE	BUILDING	16	16.5
CE15-22	c.1912	HOUSE/TELEPHONE EXCHANGE	BUILDING	16.14	16.5

A Supratype Summary of Cherry County House Types

It is no surprise that domestic buildings are the most frequently recorded resource in reconnaissance level surveys. The Cherry County survey was no exception producing a total of 387 residential resources. This total represents 30% of the 1,325 contributing buildings and structures within the study area. The preservation of this building type can be attributed to the continuing social need for shelter and the predominant location of houses in extant communities where the opportunity for occupancy is greater. The recording of residential buildings in the Cherry County survey included not only occupied resources, but abandoned as well. In addition, all houses that were surveyed as part of a church site or farmstead were included in the aforementioned totals.

In consideration of the large abundance of these resources and in an attempt to avoid "stylistic" designations, the method of Core Supratype Analysis (as developed by the Midwest Vernacular Architecture Committee, D. Murphy: 1985) has been implemented. The supratype analysis eliminated the objective labeling of domestic buildings according to "style" and imposes instead, an objective description based on the primary external mass of the house. To best define the components of the method, an excerpt from the South Bottoms Historic District National Register Nomination (D. Murphy: 1987, 1-4) is included below.

The supratype is a categorization based exclusively on the external massing of houses, similar to that first developed by Kniffen (1936) under the ruberick of "type." The term "supratype" is applied here to distinguish it from the more current methods of type

analysis which are based on form, that is, on external massing and internal space, such as that developed by Glassie (1975).

Core supratypes are defined by combinations of five massing elements as applied to the core structure of houses. Core structure is defined as the predominant mass element which cannot be further subdivided (Figure 2). In general, core refers to that portion of a house which is exclusive of wings and porches. The mass elements which compose the core include its shape, relative size, wall height, roof type, and its orientation on the site.

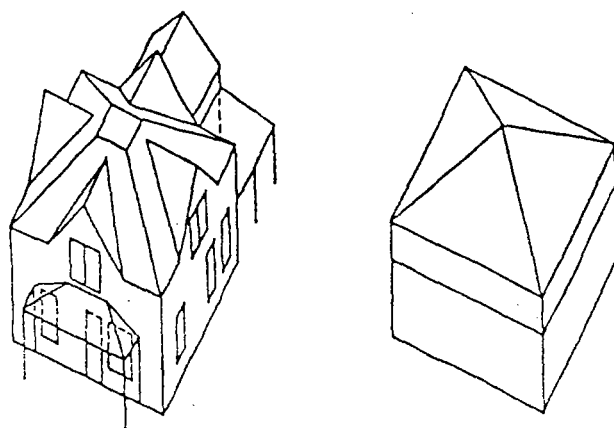


Fig. 2. The core structure derived from the house (after Murphy).

Shape designations for core structures are geometric, based on the ground-level outline of the core. Designations include square (S), rectangular (R), tee-shaped (T), ell-shaped (L), cross-shaped (X), U-shaped (U), polygonal (P), H-shaped (H), courtyard (C), irregular (I), and circular (O).

The horizontal size of the core is related to a need to distinguish large houses from small ones. Size, in the supertype method, refers to horizontal dimension and is applied only to the narrowest dimension of the core, or to its width. While actual dimensions are recorded, houses are sorted based upon "units" of measurement which approximate the number of rooms a given width normally could contain (e.g., one, one with hall, two rooms, etc.). Units of width in the South Bottoms Historic District are defined as 0.5 (less than 14 ft.), 1.0 (14-19 ft.), 1.5 (20-29 ft.), 2.0 (30-39 ft.), and 2.5 (40 ft. or greater).

The second measurement of size involves the height of the core. We designate this dimension in terms of stories, even though it is based exclusively on the height of the external wall, not on the amount of usable internal space. The measurement is based on the

facade wall, the top of which is expressed by the eave line (Figure 3). Thus attics, the space beneath a sloping roof, are not considered in determinations of height.

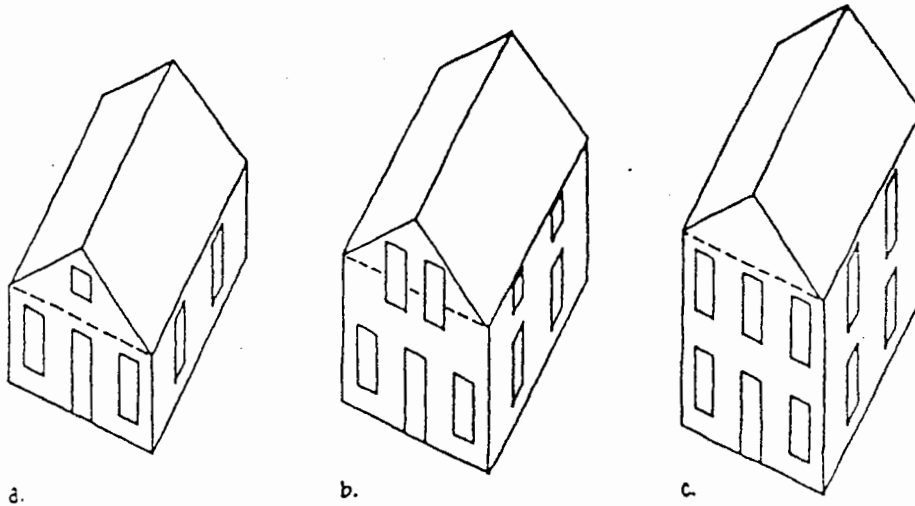


Fig. 3. Wall height guidelines illustrated, note the eave line:
a) one story, b) one-and-one-half story, c) two story
(after Murphy).

The fourth massing element is roof type. These are so well known that they need little explanation. The supratypal method utilizes only four generic types for simplicity, subsuming under these all the variants (Figure 4). The four types include flat (F), shed (S), hipped (H, including pyramidal and mansard), and gabled (G, including gambrel and gerkinhead).

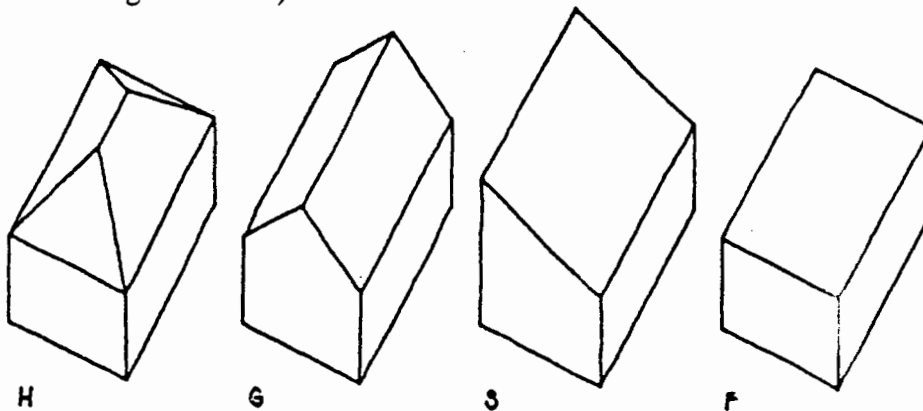


Fig. 4. Generic roof types: H: hipped; G: gable; S: shed; F: flat
(after Murphy).

The last aspect of mass used in describing core supratypes involves the orientation of the core on the site, relative to its facade. Facade is defined as that wall which is the architectural front of the house, facing the road or the street, which is usually but not always more highly decorated. Facades also usually but not always incorporate the main entrance. Orientation is expressed in latitudinal (La), longitudinal (Lo), and non-applicable (Na) terms. There are several core shapes for which orientation is not applicable. Since only two shapes, the square (S) and the rectangular (R), are statistically significant in South Bottoms, orientation will be discussed only for those two here.

For rectangular shapes, if the narrow (gable) end faces the street, the axis of its roof is perpendicular to the street. Its orientation is then termed longitudinal (Lo). If the eave side faces the street, its roof ridge runs parallel to the street and its orientation is described as latitudinal (La). Orientation is always applicable for rectangular cores.

For square shapes (S), where both the front and side dimensions are equal, we would normally consider orientation to be non-applicable (Na). This is true for squares with hipped or pyramidal roofs. However, if the square core is sheltered by a gable roof, the ridge provides an illusion of orientation as though it were rectangular in shape. Therefore, square shapes with gable roofs have orientation recorded in the same fashion as that of rectangular cores.

In summary, core supratypes are external massing categorizations applied to the core structure of houses. Core structure is the predominant mass element which cannot be further subdivided (that portion of the house exclusive of subordinate wings and porches). Five massing aspects of the core are used to derive the supertype---its shape, relative size, height, roof type, and orientation. Particular combinations of these aspects are designated numerically (S.#). (D. Murphy: South Bottoms Historic District National Register Nomination, 1987, 1-4).

Cherry County House Types

The use of the Core Supertype analysis in the reconnaissance level survey proved beneficial in that it created an objective process of interpretation for the recording of historic residences. The residential properties documented by the Cherry County survey are represented by 65 different supratypes. a numerical designation has been assigned to each of these 65 types (e.g., S.1,

S.2, S.3, etc.). A master list of the 65 individual types is included in this report as Appendix 2.

While 65 various supratypes may seem like a varied lot for 387 total resources, a somewhat more narrow group actually represents the majority of the documented properties. In fact, eight supratype categories account for 59% of all recorded properties. Furthermore, 39% of all Cherry County houses fit into one of only four supratype categories. The supratype recording of historic houses has produced a large volume of data which can be analyzed in a infinite number of ways. However, in an attempt to present a concise and useful summary of the supratype data, Save America's Heritage has focused on the answers to two basic questions. These are:

1. What were the numerically significant supratypes of the entire county?
2. What were the numerically significant supratypes
of town locations versus those of rural locations?

To answer these questions, a numerical analysis of the 65 supratypes was performed to derive a minimum level of significance. With a survey total of 387 houses, this minimum level was established at 5% necessitating a representation of 24 or more houses. Of the 65 supratypes generated by the Cherry County survey, six individual types exceed the 5% level and are summarized in the following discussion.



Supratype No. 21; R, 1.5u, 1.0s, G, Lo. Among the 65 supratypes present in Cherry County, Supratype No. 21 was the most frequently recorded house form representing 12.1% of the 387 surveyed houses. The essential characteristics of this type consist of a rectangular-shaped core with the narrowest dimension ranging from 20 to 29 feet, a height of one-story, and a gable roof running in a longitudinal orientation. This house type appears to have been started in the early settlement years of the 1890's and was carried into the 1920's where it was more commonly adorned with "craftsman" decorative motifs. The strong representation of this house type is due mostly to its predominant use in town locations. In fact, of the 47 houses recorded by the survey which employed the S.21 shape, 78% were found in town locations.



Supratype No. 20; R, 1.5u, 1.0s, G, La. Supratype No. 20 was the second most frequently recorded house form representing 9.3% of the 387 surveyed houses generated by the Cherry County Survey. The essential characteristics of the S.20 are a one-story rectangular core placed in a latitudinal orientation with a side gable-end ranging in width from 20 to 29 feet. Most often these types appeared in the recognizable and generically known "bungalow" form. Their primary era of construction was from 1915 to 1930 and they were found predominantly in the towns (69%) of Cherry County rather than outlying rural locations (31%).



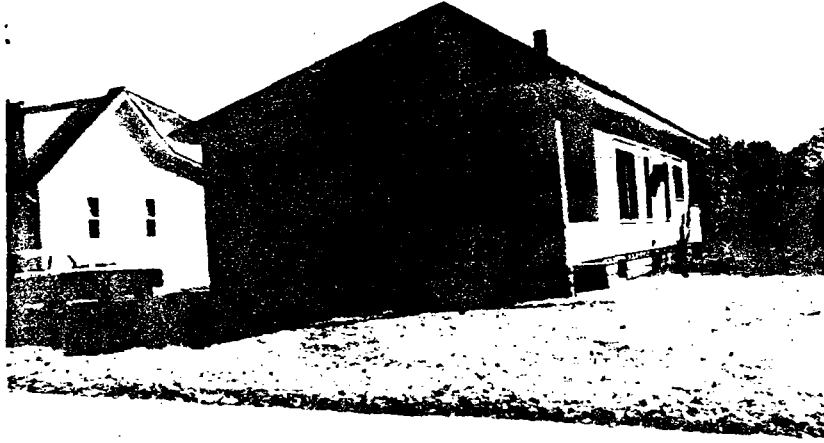
Supratype No. 9; R, 1.0u, 1.0s, G, La. Among the 65 supratypes present in Cherry County, Supratype No. 9 was the third most frequently recorded house form representing 9.0% of the 387 surveyed houses. The essential characteristics of this type consist of a one story rectangular-shaped core in latitudinal orientation with a side gable-end ranging in width from 14 to 19 feet. Most often these types contained a perpendicular rear wing of shorter height which was, for the most part, visually obstructed by the latitudinal core. The locations of the 35 recorded houses employing the S.9 shape were evenly distributed between rural (51%) and town (49%) locations. The S.9 house shape appears to be one of the more popular forms of shelter employed by the first permanent settlers during the late nineteenth-century.



Supratype No. 10; R, 1.0u, 1.0s, G, Lo. Among the 65 supratypes present in Cherry County, Supratype No. 10 was the fourth most frequently recorded house form representing 8.3% of the 387 surveyed houses. The essential characteristics of this type consist of a one-story rectangular-shaped core with the narrowest dimension ranging from 14 to 19 feet and a gable roof running in a longitudinal orientation. In most cases the core is flanked by a shorter side wing containing a one-story entry porch. This house type appears to have been started in the early settlement years of the 1890's. The locations of the 32 recorded houses employing the S.10 shape were soewhat evenly distributed between rural (56%) and town (44%) locations.

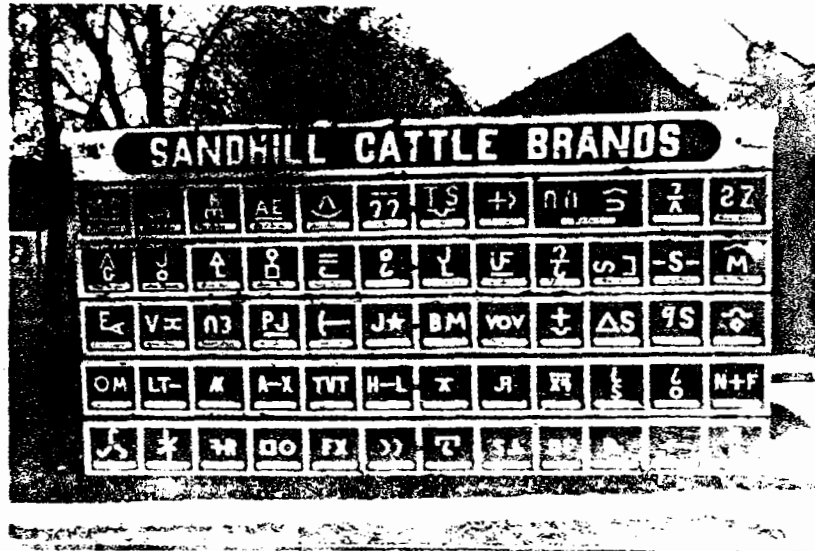


Supratype No. 47; S, 1.5u, 1.0s, H, Na. The fifth most frequently recorded house type in Cherry County was Supratype No. 47. This type was found in 6.5% of all surveyed houses in Cherry County and was evenly distributed between town (52%) and rural (48%) locations. This type has been generically referred to as a "one-story hipped roof square" and presumably consists of a four-room square plan. The width of the structure ranges from 20 to 29 feet and is usually capped by a hip roof. This house type was constructed primarily during the early decades of the twentieth-century. Some of the town-based examples contained Victorian (usually Queen Anne) stylistic detailing, but the majority of these houses appeared in unadorned vernacular forms.



Supratype No. 26; R, 1.5u, 1.0s, H, Lo. Supratype No. 26 was the sixth most frequently recorded house type in Cherry County representing 6.2% of the 387 surveyed houses and differs only slightly from the aforementioned S.21. Both the S.26 and S.21 have an identical one-story rectangular core with one and one-half unit gable ends ranging from 20 to 29 feet. In addition, both types are placed in a longitudinal relationship to the street. The only difference between these two types is found in the roof form. The more popular S.21 is covered with a gable roof while the S.26 is capped with a hip roof. Further similarities are found in the distributional locations of these types. Like the S.21, this type was predominantly constructed in town locations. In fact, all of the 24 houses documented by the survey which employed the S.26 form were located in the towns of Cherry County.

SAND HILLS RANGE LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION



Introduction

Nebraska is a state of great diversity. Diversities exist among its people, its lands, its topography and, of more immediate concern to this discussion, its agriculture. The agricultural diversity of the state of Nebraska has been forged through one hundred years of adaptation and evolution in a land once labeled the "Great American Desert". Since that time, the "desert" waste of Nebraska has been transformed into some of the most productive farm and ranch land in the United States.

The pattern for the diverse agricultural setting in Nebraska was primarily established between 1870 and 1930. The study of the various agricultural practises in Nebraska was first addressed in the 1930's by scientists from the University of Nebraska College of Agriculture. Their efforts focused upon the

definition of "system-of-farming" areas" and were published in Research Bulletins issued by the College of Agriculture Experiment Station. The two specific bulletins which focus on the definition of the types-of-farming areas are Research Bulletin Number 244, Types of Farming in Nebraska, by Harold Hedges and F.F. Elliott (May 1930), and Research Bulletin Number 299, Factors determining Type of farming Areas in Nebraska, by L.F. Garey (May 1936). The conclusions derived by these authors regarding the spatial distribution of the farming areas has generally held true to the present day as evidenced by the conclusions of James Williams and Doug Murfield in their Agricultural Atlas of Nebraska, (University of Nebraska Press, 1977).

The term type-of-farming is used to describe a group of farms which are similar in size and enterprise combination. In this way, a group of farms having the same kind, quantity, and proportion of crops and livestock may be said to be following the same type of farming (Hedges and Elliott, pp. 3). Likewise, the term type-of-farming area, refers to an area within which there is a high degree of uniformity in the agricultural production and in the physical and economic conditions under which production takes place (Hedges and Elliott, p. 3).

The boundaries of the type areas defined by the above-mentioned authors do not conform to the county boundaries imposed by state government. Instead, Figure 5 shows a more accurate division of the state into nine regions which are distinct from each other in the nature of their cropping and livestock systems (Hedges and Elliott, p. 21). These nine regions have been designated

as type-of-farming areas and have been individually labeled with titles indicating both predominant agriculture and geography.

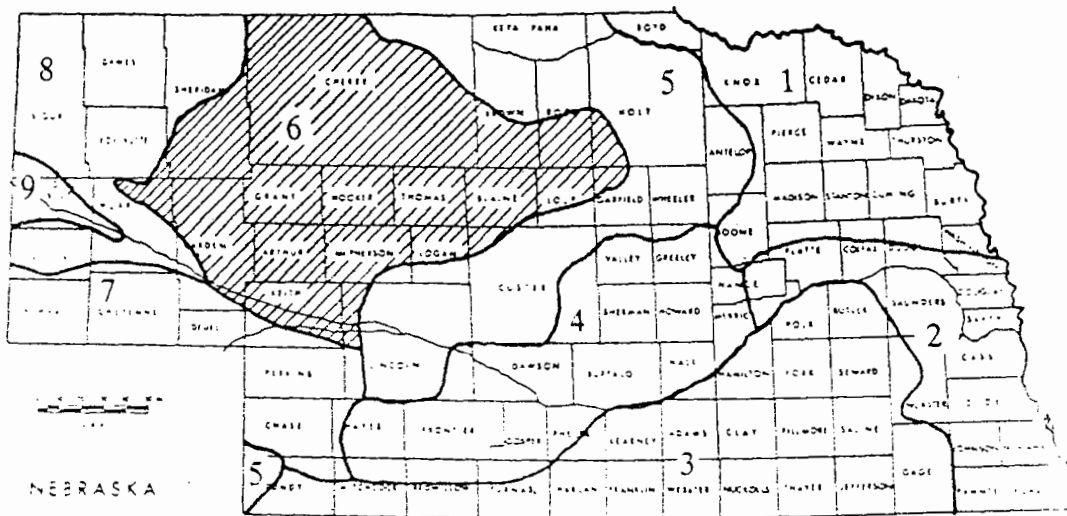


Fig. 5. Type-of-Farming regions for the state of Nebraska.

The nine areas defined by Hedges and Elliott are; 1). the Northeast Nebraska Intensive Livestock Production Area, 2). the Southeastern General Farming Area, 3). the Southern Cash Grain and Livestock Area, 4). the Central Corn and Livestock Area, 5). the Central Hay and Livestock Area, the Sand Hill Cattle Ranching Area, 7). the Southwestern Wheat Area, 8). the High Plains Small Grain and Grazing Area, 9). the Irrigated Area.

No sharply defined boundary lines can be drawn between the areas. In most cases, the transition from one area to another is gradual. The differences lie mainly in the dominant enterprises and their relative importance in the

farming systems (Hedges and Elliott, p. 22).

As evidenced by the map illustrated in Figure number 5, the type-of-farming area which blankets the northern Nebraska Sand Hills Historic Buildings Survey area has been defined as the Sand Hills Cattle Ranching Area. The historical development of the Sand Hills cattle ranching industry is marked by a long and often colorful set of events and people. However, the historical summary of the Sand Hills Cattle Ranching industry has been deferred to a later point in an effort to focus upon the fundamental definition of this farming-type and the resulting set of historic buildings associated with its production.

Sand Hills Cattle Ranching Area

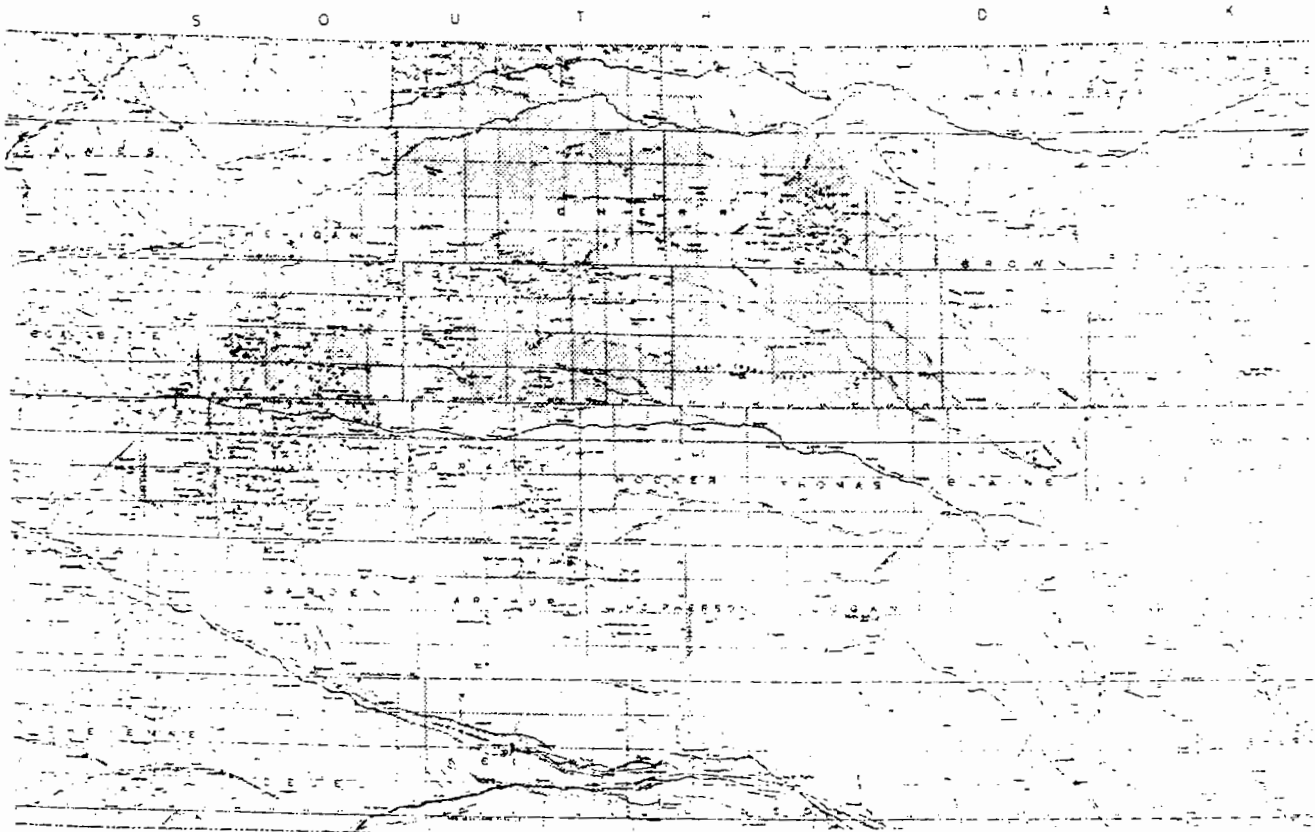


Fig. 6. The Sand Hills Cattle Ranching Area of Nebraska.

The Sand Hills Cattle Ranching area is located in the north-central and northwest portions of the state, (Figure 6). This area extends northward from the Platte River Valley of western Nebraska to the South Dakota border and varies in width from 100 to 200 miles. One of the fundamental characteristics of this area is the extremely large proportion of land devoted to the grazing of cattle. True to it's name, the Sand Hills Cattle Ranching Area includes the

Sand Hills region of Nebraska which is the largest soil and topographic region in the state (Garey 1936, p.27). In fact, Nebraska's Sand Hills cover approximately one-fourth of the state and comprise the most extensive dune formation in the western hemisphere (Madson 1978, p.493). The Sand Hills country is characterized by low-lying dunes of sand covered by native grasses suitable for the grazing of cattle. There is little surface drainage due to the porous nature of the sandy soil. The vast dunes of the Sand hills lie above large aquifers which, in certain areas, reach a depth of one-thousand feet. Between the porous hills are numerous basins which sometimes widen into larger valleys. In many of these valleys the high water table has risen above the surface of the land and formed marshes, ponds, and lakes. The effect of the high water table is most evident in the presence of the 13,000 lakes scattered on the landscape of the north and west regions of the Sand Hills (Madson 1978, p. 499).

The soils of the Sand Hills region are exceptionally fine in texture and extremely susceptible to blowing. For this reason, it is the goal of the cattle producers to maintain the native grass covers which prevent "blow-outs" of the dune tops and provide the necessary supplements for grazing. Due to the presence of the sandy soils, the Sand Hills Cattle Ranching Area is not conducive to the production of cultivated crops. In 1936, only eight-percent of the area was deemed suitable for cultivation (Garey 1936, p.49). Only four percent of the entire region was classified as containing good soils and much of those areas were located along the river and streambeds (Garey 1936, p.49).

Given such environmental conditions it is easy to understand why the land

is utilized principally for the grazing of cattle. With more than seventy-five percent of the land in pasture and the majority of the remaining lands utilized for hay production, the cattle enterprise is the logical choice as the farming type in this region (Hedges and Elliott, p.27). Hay, in combination with limited amounts of other grains provides the winter feed necessary for breeding herds. Since the grasses of the Sand Hills are not primarily suitable for the

production of grass-fat cattle, these breeding herds are maintained and the young cattle from the area are typically sent to the corn belt region prior to final shipment to market (Hedges and Elliott, p.59).

The Sand Hills Cattle Ranching Area, therefore, is essentially a cattle-raising area. The economic base is almost entirely from the sale of cattle with a small proportion coming from crop and dairy products. To illustrate the exclusivity of the Sand Hills as a cattle-raising region, data assembled by Hedges and Elliott showing the utilization of land area in the region from 1899 to 1928 has been illustrated below in Table 2.

Table 2: Utilization of Land in the Sand Hills Cattle Ranching Area, 1899-1928.

Land Utilization	1899	1909	1919	1924	1928
Cultivated Area	.5%	2.0%	3.9%	4.1%	4.2%
Wild Hay	3.9%	8.3%	10.5%	10.5%	11.0%
Pastures	11.3%	42.2%	63.2%	66.4%	80.3%
Land not in farms	84.3%	47.5%	22.4%	19.0%	4.5%

In reviewing this table, we see that the predominant trend among ranches in the Sand Hills was the increase of pasture land for the grazing of cattle. In fact, with the exception of the High Plains Small Grain and Grazing Area, by 1928 all other areas in the state had at least a double-digit split between cultivated acres and pastured lands. The only region to display a dominance in a singular agricultural type (in this case cattle) was the Sand Hills Cattle Ranching Area. Therefore, comparatively speaking, no other single agricultural type is as important to its respective region as the cattle industry is to the Sand Hills Ranching Area.

Property Types of the Sand Hills Cattle Ranching Area

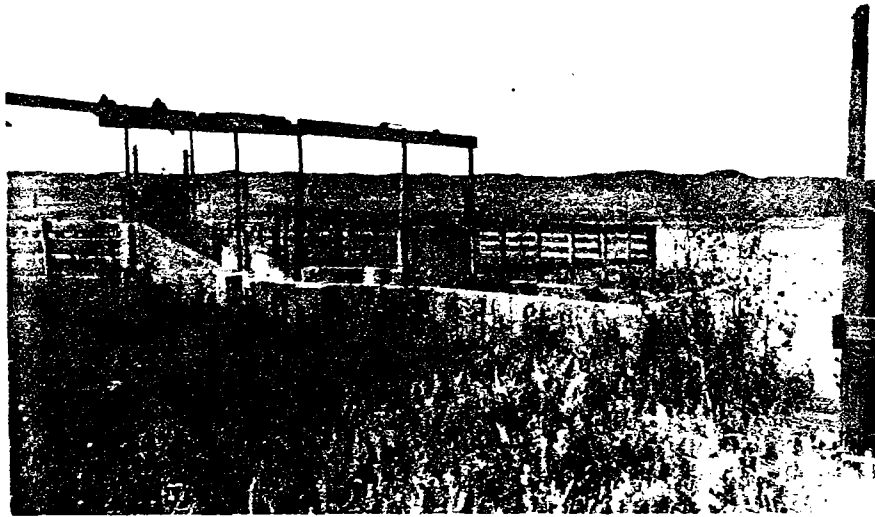
In the property type discussions previously generated for the NeSHPO regarding ethnic-related contexts, the buildings of discussion were organized according to the separation of Old World and New World traditions. Unfortunately, the study of buildings associated with the Sand Hills Cattle Ranching do not lend themselves to this conceptual separation. While it is acknowledged that the design and arrangement of farm buildings elsewhere in Nebraska may have been influenced considerably by cultural traditions, the buildings of the Sand Hills Cattle Ranching Area are generally void of a significant ethnic influence. This is in part due to the minimal influx of foreign-born immigrants as well as the overall lack of a population base capable of transferring ethnically-associated building characteristics. Even if the potential for variances in cultural design were a valid concept in the Sand Hills Ranching Area, all cattle production requires a basic group of

animal and human-related structures. The compulsory provision of food, shelter, and land was required regardless of ethnic influences. Based on this attitude, the following property type discussion will simply focus upon the basic structures associated with sand hills cattle ranching.

The sand hills ranching system requires a variety of buildings and skills necessary for the successful management of significant numbers of cattle. Ranches which have retained their pre-mechanization buildings will have a variety of structures important to the reconnaissance level survey. The buildings found on the Sand Hills cattle ranches are similar in some respects to those found on the Intensive Livestock Production farms of northeast Nebraska. The buildings, structures and objects of common reference are, cattle barns, cattle loafing sheds, implement sheds, cattle fencing systems, windmills, windbreaks and the occasional small-scale corn crib. In addition to these animal-related structures, a set of domestic oriented buildings are also found in each of these regions: the ranch or farm house, wash houses, privies, cellars, milk houses, smoke houses, gardens, and chicken houses.

However, it is more significant at this time to note the additional set of buildings found exclusive to the Nebraska Sand Hills Cattle Ranching Area. All of the buildings mentioned in this category were constructed to either satisfy the management needs of the cattle themselves or to shelter the activities of the ranch hands employed in handling the herds. The buildings associated with the labor force include; bunkhouses for sleeping quarters, saddle sheds for the storage of riding equipment, cookhouses to prepare large group meals, and commissaries for the serving of those meals.

The specific structures or objects created exclusively for the handling of cattle include; dipping stations for the cleaning and health maintenance of cattle, vaccination/branding stanchions for the immunization and identification of stock, breaking pens for the implementation of working stock, sorting pens for the management and separation of bulls, calves and heifers, holding corrals usually located in outlying pasture land, and loading chutes for the eventual shipping of sale-bound cattle.



In addition to the fact that there exists a unique set of structures exclusive to Sand Hills cattle ranching, it is also important to note that the visual characteristics of a Sand Hills ranch are also unique in comparison with other type-of-farming areas in Nebraska. The overpowering presence of the Sand Hills landscape immediately imparts a mentality of no-nonsense survival tempered by intriguing beauty. The most visually and emotionally accurate description of a Sand Hills ranch read by the author to date is found in John Madson's adventure

to the Abbott Ranch in west-central Cherry County (National Geographic, Oct., 1978).

From the main highway the road back to the ranch is nine tough miles of ruts and sand traps. The farther you go, the more you wonder where you made the wrong turn. Suddenly, around the shoulder of a high ridge, there is ranch headquarters. The main house, in a grove of cottonwoods and box elders, is 67 years old, high-ceilinged and spacious. Nearby stand the bunkhouse and cookhouse, and set into the side of the ridge is a combination butcher shop, creamery, and commissary that can feed the ranch crew for two months if blizzards close the road.

Across the ranch yard, a blacksmith forge and machine shop are equipped to serve either horse or tractor. Beyond the pens, corrals, loading chutes, and dipping tanks lies a broad, sheltered valley with herds of wintering cattle. There is a certain quality about a working ranch like this; it is a window into yesterday, with something unchanged since before the ranges were fenced.

And it is indeed true that the appearance of a Sand Hills ranch nestled among billowing hills imparts an ageless "old west" quality. A quality perhaps derived in part from its early beginnings as an outgrowth of the Texas cattle industry.

HISTORY OF SAND HILLS CATTLE RANCHING

The Texas Cattle Industry

Despite the fact that small herds of cattle were ranged on the road ranches of the Platte Valley before the Civil War, the large scale post-war range cattle industry had its origins in the state of Texas, (Olson, pp.185). This fact was brought forth in Edward Everett Dale's comments in The Range Cattle

Industry (Univ. of Oklahoma Press, 1930):

Any history of the cattle industry in the west must begin with Texas since that state was the original home of ranching on a large scale in the United States, and from its vast herds were drawn most of the cattle for the first stocking of the central and northern plains (Univ. of Oklahoma Press, 1930).

Unfortunately, while it was not difficult to raise cattle in Texas, it was difficult in finding markets of a local proximity in which to sell the Texas raised longhorns. Prior to the Civil War, this problem was solved by driving the cattle great distances to the southeastern ports of New Orleans and Galveston or the northern ports of Chicago and Cincinnati. However, the advent of the Civil War during the early 1860's disrupted the cattle industry by cutting off the established markets of the 1840's and 1850's, (Olson, pp.185). With these markets no longer available, the population of cattle in the state of Texas swelled and included not only those stock in managed herds but also large numbers of wild cattle as well. In the years immediately following the conclusion of the Civil War (1865-70), the Texas cattle industry resumed the tradition of the long cattle drive. This time however, the destination of the drives was generally not the previously-mentioned port cities to the southeast and north but rather to the shipping points along the westward moving rails of the Kansas Pacific and Union Pacific railroads (Olson, p.186). This change in destinations resulted in the development of ranches in the northern plains bringing the cattle nearer the shipping and market areas.

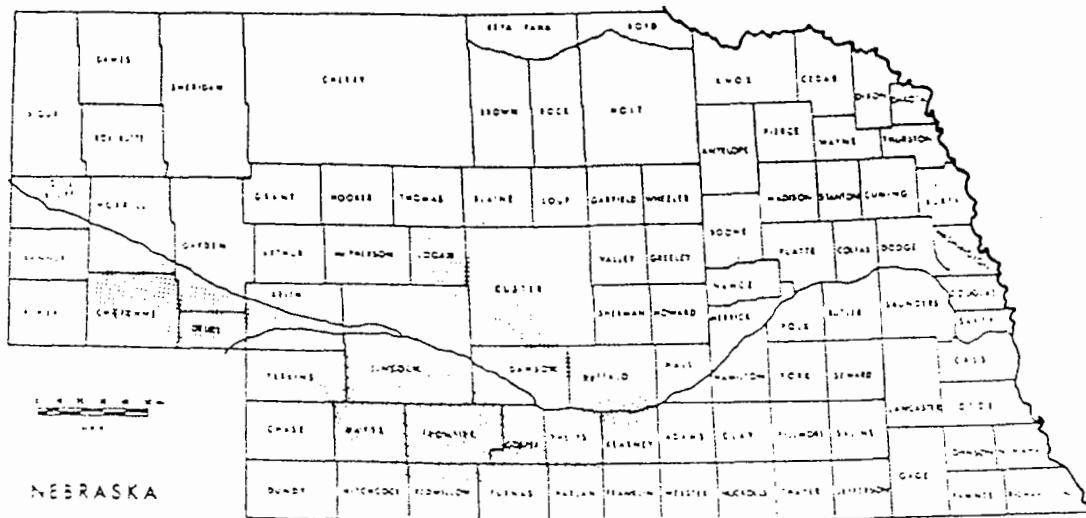
The Development of Railroad Cattle Shipping in Nebraska

Despite the post-war advent of new shipping locations on the plains north of Texas, a relatively low percentage of the cattle were driven as far north as Nebraska (15,000 of 260,000 in 1866). Of the cattle which were driven to Nebraska, the majority were purchased by the United States government to feed the Native American Indians located on Nebraska reservations. The largest percentage of cattle driven north from Texas were destined for Abilene, Kansas to be shipped eastward on the Kansas Pacific rail lines. However, in the winter of 1869, officials from the Union Pacific Railroad began to interest themselves in the prospect of shipping cattle from points along their rail lines in Nebraska (Olson, p.186). By the summer of 1870 the Union Pacific had finalized its plans and had joined in competition with the Kansas Pacific Railroad in the cattle shipping industry. The early shipping points of the Union Pacific in Nebraska were Schuyler (1870), Kearney (1871-73), and finally Ogallala (1873-c.1885). While the existence of Schuyler and Kearney as cattle shipping points was short-lived, Ogallala became a primary shipping point and was subsequently labeled the "Cowboy Capital" of Nebraska. In 1875, over 60,000 Texas cattle were driven into Ogallala and from 1876 to the middle 1880's, the number of Texas cattle brought into Ogallala on an annual basis was over 100,000 (Olson, p.187).

The days of the northbound cattle drives from Texas came to an end in the middle 1880's as settlement in northwest Kansas and southwest Nebraska created competition for land and invoked herd laws to stem the flow of Texas cattle into recently settled Nebraska lands. By this time however, the cattle

industry brought up the trails from Texas had firmly established itself in the environs of western Nebraska and eastern Wyoming.

The Nebraska Range 1865-1876



The beef cattle industry originally established in Nebraska was located in four primary areas: the lower panhandle region between the North and South Platte rivers; the region between the Platte and Republican rivers; the Platte Valley adjacent to Kearney; and the valley of the South Loup River (Olson, p.188). These four regions shared several factors necessary for the establishment of cattle operations. Each of the areas were near the terminals of the Texas trails on the Union Pacific, they were protected by U.S. military forts, they had access to the local markets of the Indian reservations, and they contained good pasture land, (Olson, pp.188). After the rangelands in these initial areas

were occupied, the cattle industry spread into the settled portions of the state. As the drought and grasshopper years of the middle 1870's forced many settlers off the land in the upper Elkhorn (Holt County) and Republican River valleys (Furnas, Red Willow, and Hitchcock counties) the cattle moved into these areas and expanded the boundaries of their industry (Olson, p.188).

However, the northern Sand Hills region of Nebraska remained extremely uninviting to the early cattlemen of Nebraska. With the exception of the cattle sent into the Sand Hills ranges from ranches on the south and east fringes of the region (John Bratt & Co. Ranch 1870-72; Keystone Cattle Co. and the B-Bar Bosler Bros. 1875; Cody-North Ranch 1877), the interior of the Sand Hills area was a source of mystery and fear to the cattlemen of Nebraska until the late 1870's (Aeschbacher, 1946, p.209). This is attributed to both the misconception of the Sand Hills as inadequate grazing land and to the fear of the Sioux Indian nation who controlled the Sand Hills until their 1876 secession to the U.S. Government. The Sioux nation claim to the Sand Hills area stemmed primarily from a treaty signed in 1868 which confirmed the Sioux claim to all land north of the North Platte River (Aeschbacher, 1946, p.205). As the whites followed the Oregon Trail and Union Pacific railroad through Nebraska, they avoided the Sand Hills territory of the Sioux nation. Consequently, there is no record of any permanent white settlement in the Sand Hills prior to 1875 (Aeschbacher, 1946, p.206). In that year, the U.S. Government paid the Sioux \$25,000 for an 11,000 square mile strip of the Sand Hills which extended northward from the fork of the Platte River to within twenty miles of the Niobrara River in what is now Cherry County. Then in

1876, after a year of conflict and bloodshed with the U.S. Government, the Sioux ceded the remainder of the territory north to the boundary of the state (Aeschbacher, 1946, p.206).

Despite the 1875-76 acquisition of the Sand Hills territory by the U.S. Government, the early cattlemen of Nebraska were still hesitant to penetrate the unknown interior of the rugged Sand Hills. This remained true until the spring of 1879 when two separate experiences forced the cattlemen to reconsider.

The first of these incidents occurred when Frank North of the Cody-North Ranch decided to take a herd of cattle straight north through the hills from the roundup on his southern range to his home range on the Dismal River. In years prior to this, North had avoided the Sand Hills by circling around the southeastern edge of the territory. In doing so, however, he had more than doubled the seventy mile direct route which he embarked upon in 1879. After going about thirty-five miles through supposedly dry country, North came upon a lake around which were approximately seven-hundred head of cattle in much better condition than those he had gathered on his roundup (Aeschbacher, 1946 p. 211). At about the same time, the Newman Brothers of the N-Bar Ranch located in the northwest fringe of the Sand Hills experienced a similar discovery. The Newmans considered the Sand Hills a graveyard for cattle and therefore established "line-rider" ranches along the edge of the hills to prevent the cattle from drifting into undesirable land. However, a blizzard in March of 1879 drove approximately six-thousand head of cattle past the line-riders and into the hills. In April of the same year, the Newman's decided to make an

attempt to save the cattle by sending a roundup into the hills. After working five weeks, the crew brought back not six-thousand, but eight-thousand cattle that wore the Newman brand, and an additional one-thousand head of unbranded cattle that were apparently descendents of animals that had drifted into the Sand Hills in previous years, (Aeschbacher, 1946, p.211).

If these two incidents were not enough to convince the cattlemen to reconsider, the winter of 1880-81 provided the final incentive. During the severe blizzards of that season, thousands of cattle ranged on the Platte Valley perished in the storms. Meanwhile, the Cody-North Ranch isolated in the southern Sand Hills lost relatively few cattle (Aeschbacher, 1946, p. 212). After this, the ranchers realized the Sand Hills region was not only suitable as cattle country, but in many respects was superior to the previously utilized rangelands.

Consequently, by the middle 1880's, the Sand Hills had developed into an important region for the beef cattle industry. This development was forged however, not by the hands of the big cattle companies previously mentioned, but by the recent influx of small scale operations. The big ranch companies never seriously invaded the area, and none actually moved their headquarters into the prosperous hills. Instead, they remained near the shipping points of the Union Pacific railroad and only ventured into the Sand Hills during their semi-annual roundups (Aeschbacher, 1946, p. 213). Because these large companies did not pursue the establishment of their headquarters within the Sand Hills, the opportunity for the small operators to move in and establish their own ranches was presented. Initially these new ranches consisted of modest land

holdings and small cattle herds. By the year 1900, however, these small single-family ranches had grown into large organizations which controlled thousands of acres of Sand Hill grazing land (Olson, p. 191). This era of growth was aided by the extension of the Burlington Railroad through the interior of the Sand Hills in the years 1887-88 (Olson, p. 190).

The availability of rail shipping provided the "new" ranchers with access to markets in the east and enabled their once small holdings to expand rapidly. Some of the first permanent ranchers in the Sand Hills to build their small-scale holdings into large operations include;

Name	Date	Location
Thomas Lynch	1884	Hyannis Vicinty, Grant County
Jay Taylor	1888	Whitman Vicinity, Grant County
Abbott Ranch	1886	Hyannis Vicinity, Cherry County
Haney Brothers	1886	Grant County
J.M. Gentry	1887	Whitman Vicinty, Cherry County
J.H. Minor	1888	Hyannis Vicinity, Grant County
James Forbes	1888	Hyannis Vicinity, Grant County
R.M. "Bud" Moran	1887	Hyannis Vicinity, Grant County
U Cross Ranch	c.1888	Cherry County
F.L. Perrett	1890	Hyannis Vicinity, Cherry County
A.T. Davis Ranch	1888	Ashby Vicinity, Cherry County
Plummer Dumbbell Ranch	c.1888	Cherry County
Woodruff Ranch	c.1888	Cherry County
Mason Ranch	c.1888	Cherry County
Stansbie Ranch	c.1888	Cherry County
Gage Ranch	c.1888	Cherry County
Lawson Ranch	c.1892	Cherry County
Becker Ranch	c.1892	Cherry County

In addition to these settlers, some of the large companies of the southern plains states such as the Spade and 101 Ranches as well as the British-owned UBI ranch had established holdings in the Sand Hills.

Initially, the ranchers of the early 1880's simply ran their cattle on public domain. They selected the best piece of land they could find and simply located as squatters without paying either taxes or rent (Aeschbacher, 1946, p. 219). The range was considered "open" only in theory. The cattlemen, through mutual agreements and friendly local governments, were able to control the influx of homestead settlers through friendly persuasion and strong-armed harassment. Then in 1885, the cause of the homesteaders was strengthened by federal legislation which prohibited any enclosure of the public domain (Olson, p. 192). This of course, was worrisome news for the ranchers of the Sand Hills who had fenced large tracts of public land in an effort to deter the incoming homesteaders. Coincident to this legislation was the growing sentiment in the eastern states that the "open" lands should not be an administrative expense to the government but rather privately owned land subject to taxation (Aeschbacher, 1946, p. 219). In order to respond to this sentiment, the ranchers of the Sand Hills proposed plans whereby the present user of the property would have the first opportunity to buy or lease the land they were currently using for range and thereby protect the large investments made in fencing the public land (Aeschbacher, p. 219). However, two serious blows were dealt to the ranchers in the early twentieth-century which affected the cattle industry until the Depression years of the 1920's.

The first of these setbacks came with the administration of President

Theodore Roosevelt in 1901. Under the direction of Roosevelt, the U.S. Government embarked on an effort to enforce the heretofore ignored illegal fence law of 1885. For example, in one case, Roosevelt ordered actions against two of the ruling officers of the Nebraska Land and Feeding Company: Bartlett Richards and William Comstock. The Nebraska Land and Feeding Company operated the Spade, Bar C, and Overton Ranches which comprised over 212,000 acres of illegally fenced government land (Olson, p. 193). The men were eventually convicted and incarcerated in the Adams County Jail of Hastings, Nebraska.

The second setback suffered by the ranchers in their effort to sustain their illegally fenced lands occurred in 1904 and proved to be a substantially more powerful blow. Their hopes for a purchase or lease law were permanently shattered by the 1904 passage of the Kinkaid Act. This act increased the size of the homestead in the Sand Hills from the previously inadequate one-quarter section (160 acres) to an entire 640-acre section. The settlers, known as "Kinkaiders" could receive patents for their lands after residence of five years and proof that they had placed improvements of \$1.25 per acre upon the land claimed. When the Sand Hills were opened to the Kinkaiders, the population of the region boomed. The eastern portion of the Sand Hills were the first area to witness the influx of Kinkaiders (Aeschbacher, 1946, p. 220). While the majority of the claims in the eastern area of the Sand Hills occurred in the years immediately following 1904, the western portion of the Sand Hills was not settled by Kinkaiders for another ten years (Aeschbacher, 1946, p.220). The greater portion of this western area consisted of a tract of the

North Platte Forest Reserve which was not available for claiming until 1913. Following the passage of the Kinkaid Act in 1904, the Sand Hills went through a 10 to 20 year period of ill-fated farming efforts. The sandy soils of the region were not suitable for cultivation and any attempts to sustain annual crops resulted in rapid erosion and eventual "blow-outs" of proposed farmland. The Depression of the 1920's forced many of those who had taken Homestead claims under the Kinkaid Act to sell their land to the cattlemen. For those who did hold on, the combined drought and depression of the 1930's signalled an end to their dreams as well. By this time, the pattern of the present-day cattle ranching industry was fairly well established. Any lingering misconceptions that farming would displace cattle-raising in the Sand Hills region had been firmly dismissed. The vast expanses of the Sand Hills had, in an indirect fashion, returned into the hands of the cattle-raising industry and the balance of the fragile grass covered dunes was once again restored.

THE IMPACT OF THE KINKAID AND HOMESTEAD ACTS IN THE NORTHERN NEBRASKA SAND HILLS

The Homestead Act, and more importantly the Kinkaid Act, had a significant impact on the settlement of the Sand Hills region. Under the patronage of these acts, the population of the Sand Hills region increased tremendously. The influx of settlers spawned an era of economic prosperity which witnessed the construction of a significant number of rural buildings. In order to satisfy the requirements of their claim, the homesteaders and more significantly the Kinkaiders, were required to reside on their claims therefore necessitating the construction of buildings for human and animal occupancy. It is these buildings which are of particular interest to the survey results based on their relation to this important period of settlement. Based on the contributions these acts made to the historic built environment of the northern Sand Hills region it was considered necessary to discuss their provisions and subsequent impact.

During the first two decades of the settlement of Nebraska (1855-1875), the Sand Hills region was left largely unsettled and remained part of Nebraska's unorganized territory. The entire region was known as Sioux country and official business was conducted through Cheyenne County. By the late 1870's and early 1880's, the Sand Hills area was beginning to experience its first influx of settlers. The period of initial settlement that followed (1880 to 1890), was one of generally good conditions and settlement increased at a steady rate. It was during this period that the first impact of the Homestead Act of 1862 was felt in the northern Nebraska Sand Hills region. While the eastern counties of the northern Sand Hills study area (Keya Paha, Brown, Rock,

Blaine, Loup) had experienced homestead claims in the 1870's, the first claims filed in the western counties (Cherry, Grant, Hooker, Thomas) occurred between the years of 1880 and 1886.

The Homestead Act of 1862 provided for up to one-quarter section of "free" land (160 acres) to heads of families who had paid the \$10.00 filing fee and resided or cultivated the land for five consecutive years. Supplemental to the Homestead Act was the Timber Culture Act approved by Congress in 1873. It provided that a homesteader could acquire any additional one-quarter section by planting 40 acres with trees and caring for them for ten years.

Prior to the influx of homesteaders into the Sand Hills, a portion of the region was occupied by large cattle companies using the public domain of the open range for the grazing of cattle. When the homesteaders began to stake their claims, the open range land used by the cattle companies was subdivided into smaller properties of 160 to 320 acre holdings (Olson, p. 192). The majority of homesteaders, in compliance of the Act, began to cultivate the land of the northern Sand Hills. However, this proved to be an ill-fated decision due to the high susceptibility of the sand-based soil to erosion. Once the grass covered mantle was tilled under for cultivation large "blow-outs" resulted and the land which had been cultivated was rendered useless. By the end of the 1880's, the perception of the Sand Hills as an inadequate region for cultivation had been realized (Tubbs, p. 117).

In the 1890's, faced with drouth, grasshopper plagues and economic depression, many settlers returned east or moved further west and the area experienced its first loss in population. Because of the events this decade, the ultimate impact of the Homestead Act in the northern Sand Hills was

relatively short-lived and uneventful. This however, is in marked contrast to the impact of the Act in Nebraska as a whole.

Under the impetus of the Homestead Act and other land promotions, settlers poured into the state literally by the thousands. The population of Nebraska increased from 452,402 in 1880 to 1,058,910 in 1890, a total increase of 134% (Olson, p. 195). Also during the decade of the prosperous 1880's, twenty-six counties were organized throughout the state leaving only four counties as yet unorganized. While a great deal of credit must be given to settlement that resulted from the arrival of the railroads, it was through the Homestead Act and related federal legislation that much of Nebraska's rural lands were settled (Olson, p. 157).

Despite the statewide success of the Homestead Act, the only successful use made of the law in the Sand Hills was by cattlemen who used it to secure stream fronts and water holes. In fact, a great deal of the Sand Hills area had never been homesteaded and was used only for open grazing (Tubbs, p. 118). The condition of the homesteaders in the Sand Hills region during the 1870's convinced much of the population that the settlement of the area under the existing Homestead or Timber Claim Acts was not satisfactory. The land which the settlers could obtain was not sufficient for sustaining a livelihood in the Sand Hills region. Even in the areas of the Sand Hills where cultivation of crops was possible, 160 to 320 acres was simply not an adequate amount for a single-family property. The original intent of the Homestead Act was to distribute the land in humid areas east of the 100th meridian but it made no provisions for increasing the size of the claim for those areas with insufficient rainfall of inadequate soils (Reynolds, p. 20). The desperate

for the United States. Washington D.C: United States Government Printing
Office, 1936.

Williams, James H. and Doug Murfield Agricultural Atlas of Nebraska. Lincoln,
NE: University of Nebraska Press, 1977.

plight of the homesteader in the Sand Hills region gradually gained the support of regional and national politicians. In fact, prior to the drouth-stricken 1890's, the Public Lands Commission of 1879 recommended a homestead on grazing lands of four square miles. Cattlemen, however, were naturally satisfied with existing conditions and the four section recommendation was never accepted.

However, the idea of an enlarged homestead as a means of settling the Sand Hills was revived by T.A. Fort of North Platte following the drouth of 1890 (Tubbs, p. 118). Fort proposed a homestead of two square miles (2,560 acres) with a requirement of five years residence and annual improvements on the land (Tubbs, p. 118). By 1900, Fort had interested the recently elected Congressman William Neville in his new proposal. In 1901, Neville introduced a bill to provide a two-square mile homestead but the proposal never advanced pass the committee stage (Tubbs, p. 118).

One year later, in 1902, President Theodore Roosevelt called attention to the inadequacy of the quarter-section homestead in the arid western lands. Although Roosevelt made no specific proposals, the road was paved for congressional action. The leadership for this action was assumed by Moses P. Kinkaid of O'Neill, Nebraska who had defeated Neville in the 1902 race for the sixth district congressional seat. In April 1904, Kinkaid introduced a bill to the House of Representatives which would eventually change the settlement history of much of Western Nebraska. The intent of the bill was to "amend the homestead laws as to certain unappropriated and unreserved lands in Nebraska," (Reynold, p. 21).

The bill, as presented to the committee on Public Lands, requested a homestead of 1,280 acres in thirty-seven Nebraska counties to be acquired by a

residence of five years and improvements of \$1.25 per acre for each acre claimed. The committee amended the bill to 640 acres and recommended it to the house on April 13, 1904, stating that the increased size of the homestead would compensate the homesteader on quantity of land for what it lacked in quality and productiveness (Reynolds p. 22). The report by the committee emphasized that, from 1875 to 1904, the land to which the bill applied had been rejected by homesteaders who had settled only on the quarter sections of land good enough to support cultivation. This pattern had left open for settlement the semi-arid grazing lands incapable of supporting a profitable farm on only 160 acre tracts of land (Reynolds page 22). The report also stated that, in numerous cases, the homesteaders who did file claims on the unsuitable areas had only done so with the intent of selling the land to the cattlemen once their claim was fulfilled. A committee was appointed to work out the differences between the two bills and, after approval of both houses, the Kinkaid Act was signed by President Roosevelt on April 28, 1904.

The final form of the bill provided that the homestead unit should not exceed 640 acres and that any lands which were irrigable should not be open to entry (Reynolds p. 23). Homesteaders in the territory who had occupied lands already under entry were allowed to claim adjoining lands up to the 640 acre total and have their existing house serve as the residence for the additional land (Reynolds p. 23). The additional land was then given final proof five years after the filing date.

Evolution of the Family Ranch

"After the new house was built, my grandfather's house was torn down...it used to sit where that concrete shop is now," (Tim Ganser interview, November 1988). This casual description given by one of the ranchers concerning his original family homestead, exemplifies the evolution of the family ranch. From original homesteaders to present day ranchers, the family ranch has not been ignorant to change. Over the years original homesteads have either expanded as a result of prosperous growth or dwindled to the point of raw survival as a result of changing times. It is the first of these scenarios in which we wish to explore further. As acknowledged, the physical components of the family ranch which combine to comprise one unit have evolved from a series of technological advances.

Population growth to the sandhills region saw a major increase during the teens as a result of the Kinkaid Act. Under this act settlers could claim up to 640 acres of land where previously only a maximum of 160 acres was obtainable. Thousands of acres owned by the government were granted over to eager settlers. Mari Sandoz described these people in Sandhills Sundays, (1930):

"...perhaps a potential settler should realize from the start that homesteading was not for the timid, and as soon as a man could say "I'm looking for me a piece of government land-" he was among friends. He and any family he had were welcome to eat at our table and sleep in our beds even if we children were moved to the floor. This was naturally all agreed beyond the twenty-five dollar locating and surveying fee Old Jules charged whenever the settler managed to get the money. Often the family stayed with us until their house was up."

After the acreage was located and property markers were established, the

homesteader began the task of breaking the virgin ground. Farming was the original intention but the sandy composition of the land would soon prove otherwise. Simultaneous to the turning of the land came the construction of a dwelling. Making do with material at hand, many of the early shelters were built out of sod or in the earth itself. Lumber was also available via the railroad. Other buildings essential to the ranch practice such as an outhouse, barn, and other outbuildings, soon followed. These structures were most always constructed of lumber.

As the family ranch continued operation, there began a transfer of responsibility from one generation to the next. Children became pseudo-apprentices to the practices of ranch operation for in time, they would assume responsibility. This transfer of control creates the second generation family ranch.

The Kinkaid Act becomes a historic document representing a stage in early settlement. By this time, methods for ranching have been established. There also exists a house, and the other necessary outbuildings. Changes made to the ranch will build upon what already exists. Additions to the house take place as the family continues to increase. Technological advances in farm machinery require buildings to house them. It is in this period that we see the physical fabric of the ranch expand with refinement in experimental operation.

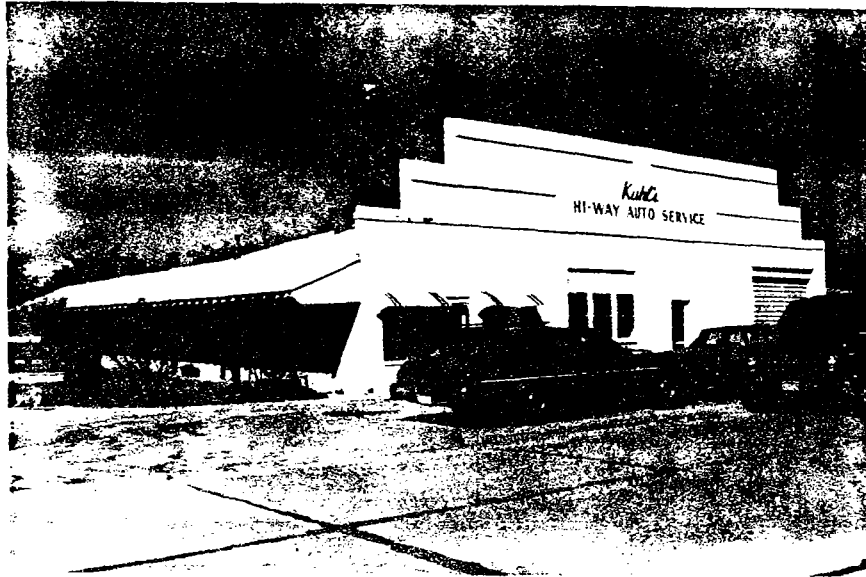
As the third generation assumes responsibility for the family ranch, changes in building functions begin to shift. Because of modern conveniences such as indoor plumbing and electricity, the original house has become unfavorable as the main dwelling. A new main house is built with the former

house left for the grandparents to live. Eventually, the original house either falls in disrepair, is used for scrap materials, or becomes an outbuilding to house livestock or grain. Sheathing material such as stucco and tin also find practical use in the protection of deteriorated outbuildings in need of repair. One by one the original frame homestead buildings begin to fall. The once important large gambrel roofed barn finds minor use as a part-time garage. The two tall silos flanking it threaten to collapse. But behind the barn is a complex of new pre-fabricated with gleaming metal roofs (J.B. Jackson, 1984).

Prefabricated buildings designed and manufactured by large companies from far away places find their way into the ranch landscape. The symbiotic relationship once held by the buildings and the settlers who created them becomes blurred. Even the family house each one unique to its environment slowly disappears in favor of the more economical, more temporary, more impersonal trailer house.

In the course of roughly 100 years, the evolution of the family ranch in Nebraska's sandhills region has experienced major change. Today's vision of the ranch landscape is expressed in pictures of large frame houses and gambrel roofed barns. Will tomorrow's ranch landscape consist of trailer homes and Behlen buildings?

Roadside Lodging in Valentine, Nebraska



Kuhl's Motel & Garage (CE14-101)

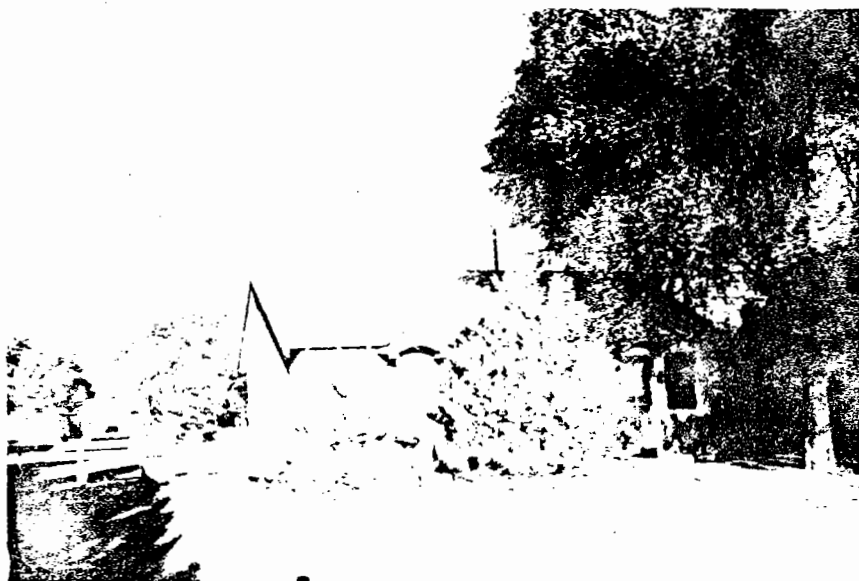
Mass production of Henry Ford's Model T during the early twentieth century made available a new mode of freedom. Previously, railroads held the monopoly on when, where, and how people traveled. The automobile was initially referred to as the "peoples' locomotive". Advertisements were quick to pick up on this association as indicated by a 1924 magazine ad for Chevrolet:

The automobile, 14,000,000 strong, has in truth become our most numerous "common carrier". Every owner (is) in effect a railroad president, operating individually on an elective schedule, over highways built and maintained chiefly at the expense of himself and his fellow motorists.

Within a short period of time, what was once known as a novelty for the elite became a necessity for the middle class. Companies such as General Motors began introducing yearly models in 1927. Used automobiles, once owned by the affluent and traded in for new models, made it affordable for the middle and lower class to purchase, however run-down or beat they may have been. Automobiles became commonplace. "See the Country" became a frequently used catchphrase. America's past time turned from baseball to auto-touring. Along with the motorist came new demands and necessities commonly referred to as gas, food, and lodging. Specifically, it is the topic of hotels, motels, cabins, and courts, in which this paper will concentrate on. The Sandhill community of Valentine with a population of 2829, boasts 13 operating lodging accommodations. These "places of rest" range in date from the 1920's to the 1980's.

As travel expeditions grew from daily outings to overnight trips, a new type of roadside establishment began taking shape. Early overnight motorists had little problems with where to spend the night. All that was needed was a place to pull over and a blanket to keep warm. As the roads became more congested, so too did the NO TRESPASSING signs. This created problems for the motorist: Where was he/she to stay? The inner-city hotels were not favored by these new form of travelers for various reasons. They felt that a traditional city hotel was either too expensive or, if the price was reasonable, the sanitary conditions of the hotel were not. The cross-country traveler also found it desirable to "skirt" a town in order to avoid heavier traffic. The solution was to be found in what is known as the auto camp. Though few of these camps still exist in original form, Valentine does have an operating descendent of

this type. Known as the KOA, this camp provides the same basic necessities as did the camps of the 1920's in addition to modern luxuries such as hot showers, electrical hookups, and swimming pool. The early auto camps worked fine for travelers who didn't mind sleeping in a tent or auto but not all preferred this type of overnight accommodation. Something more was needed.



The Ballard Motel (CE14-62)

Cabins grew out of a need for a more permanent and work free form of overnight shelter. The advantage of the auto cabin was flexibility. One or many more cabins could be erected according to the demand for overnight lodging. Not only did these units physically protect guests but they also symbolically represented the popularity and permanence of the automobile. Unlike the earlier tent stops, these new cabins began to shape the route

motorists opted to travel. The architecture of each cabin also tried to mimic or assimilate the traditional elements of "home". Valentine has two forms of this cabin type still in operation: The Ballard Motel (CE14-62) and the Fountain Inn (CE14-107) are located two blocks apart from each other along Highway 20. Both loosely follow the U-shape motel plan with the cabins forming a "U" in plan and the office/residence core located in the center. These two properties are of a later cabin typology where the idea of separate units has been modified to form a low string of repeated, connected "cabins". The connected roadside motels evolved as a means of streamlining construction and maintenance costs.

During the fifties, the motel/motor court industry boomed. In a 1953 edition of Architectural Record United Motor Courts stated that twenty motor courts a day are being completed this year as compared with eleven a day in 1952." It was also estimated that more than 86 percent of all travelers in the United States went by car in 1952, and in 1953 it was predicted that about 40,000,000 people, two-thirds of those traveling by car, would stop at motels. The Valentine lodging operations from this period exhibit two prime examples, The Raine Motel and the slightly older Valentine Motel. In these properties one can see the amalgamation of cabin structure to office/residence structure. Rooms and owner's house became part of the same one-building property. The relationship of the automobile to a corresponding room however was still important. A direct transition from parking stall to sidewalk to room, evident in the 1950's examples, would eventually be omitted by future hotel types.

The names of these 50's motels also reflect the region to which they

belong. Along with the two previously mentioned motels, others include: "the Dunes"--a whimsical sandhills association, and "the Tradewinds"--located near Valentine's airport. These motels gave great attention to signage and the ability to attract the motorist's attention and subsequently their business. The best way to accomplish this without blinding the motorist was by use of neon, tubular lighting, or by recessed spot and flood lights. Neon provided the variety of color as well as flexibility in shaping.

Although the concept of motel and restaurant "chain" architecture was implemented before World War II, only one company successfully made it through the war years and continues today: Howard Johnson's. Other familiar chains such as Holiday Inn began spreading throughout the country with their familiar chain of hotels in 1957. Within the last two decades a new trend has emerged in full force to accommodate the economically minded traveler. Valentine's contribution to this is a new motel of the "Super 8" chain. In this example, all functions have turned inward resulting in an "internal box" form. Erased is that once important relationship with the outside, for example the U-shape motel, and the transition which once existed between the automobile and corresponding room. Economy is the concept, the internal box is the means.

As the evolution of lodging structures continues, so too must continue the awareness of this typology's importance. For it is in examining and documenting these hotels, motels, cabins and courts that we can begin to understand how these and other properties developed out of necessity. This was the need popularized by Henry Ford's mass-produced Model T automobile, a powerful symbol from the early twentieth century. Roadside architecture developed in response

to this and continues to reflect the times and themes of America. Valentine's importance as a major stopping point for motorists can be testified by the unusually large number of operating lodging accommodations within the city. The collection of automobile-related accommodations in Valentine represents a variety of types spanning from the early to the late twentieth century. Save America's Heritage recognizes the importance of this topic and recommends the study of overnight accommodations in Valentine for future research.

Catalogue Houses

The homesteader got most of his items through mail order catalogues, including, sometimes, his wife, if one could call the matrimonial papers, the heart-and-hand publications, catalogues. They did describe the offerings rather fully but with, perhaps, a little less honesty than Montgomery Ward or Sears Roebuck.

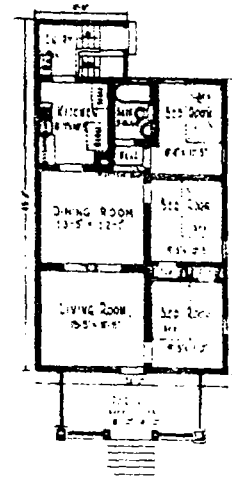
Sandhill Sundays (1930) by Mari Sandoz

Before the days of modern transportation, the physical landscape of many regions influenced and dictated the type of architecture executed. The Sand Hills region of Nebraska offered very little in terms of native building materials for homesteaders. They made do with materials at hand which consisted of a few trees for lumber and plenty of sod for "bricks". The sod house came to represent a common house type known to the plains. Landscape historian J.B. Jackson, described the limitations of materials in the built environment in his book Discovering The Vernacular Landscape, "...In the West... new houses are either of the prefabricated, mail-order variety or made of concrete block for lack of inexpensive lumber," (1984).

Soon after early settlement, the newly established railway system began shipping merchandise to once isolated places. The availability of lumber increased and it soon became the dominant building material. Construction on the plains was at its peak.

The late 19th and early 20th centuries were ripe for entrepreneurs who sold architectural plans as well as the houses themselves. The Hodgeson Company, Alladin Homes, Montgomery Ward, and Sears and Roebuck all had their start in the prefabricated housing business between 1895 and 1910. Sears however, was the largest: its sales reached 30,000 houses by 1925 and nearly

50,000 by 1930, more than any other mail order Company (Stevenson and Jandl 1986).



"The Hampton" was available from Sears and Roebuck (1925-29). from Houses By Mail, Stevenson and Jandl, 1986.

Although catalogue houses were available anywhere the railroad went, popularity of these houses was concentrated in the midwest. Nebraska, and more specifically the sand hills region were not excluded from this 20th century phenomena. Stevenson and Jandl (1986) have identified 20 Sears mail-order houses constructed in Nebraska according to the records from the Sears archives. Documentation of houses includes style, location, and date of construction. Unfortunately, the Sears Company did not keep extensive records on every house sold. Further, numerous house plans were sold without the pre-cut lumber package. In these instances, it is even harder to estimate how many of these houses were actually built and even more difficult to locate. To further complicate matters, it is very difficult to identify a catalogue house just by viewing the exterior. Sears offered a wide selection of the most

sought-after styles. They also welcomed alterations to existing plans as well as custom designed houses.

Save America's Heritage recognizes the importance of catalogue houses to the history of Nebraska. Through the thirty years of catalogue house production, catalogue house companies, especially Sears, has set impressive records of houses sold. Unpretentiously, these houses have been integrated into the architectural landscape and are symbols of innovation in the modern housing industry. The sheer number which were estimated to have been built testifies to the popularity of catalogue homes and reflects twentieth-century attitudes.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FUTURE WORK

Throughout the duration of the Cherry County Historic Buildings Survey, random observations were recorded in an effort to later construct recommendations for future work. The general impressions recorded by the survey team were then combined with a post-survey analysis of documented historic properties. The resulting recommendations were conceptualized by Save America's Heritage to fit the "tools" of preservation and documentation available to the Nebraska State Historic Preservation Office. These tools consist of Multiple Property, Historic District, and individual nominations to the National Register of Historic Places as well as intensive survey relating to Historic Context Reports. The following suggestions are separated into two categories and are presented as follows: 1) NeSHPO National Register Follow-Up, and 2) Potential Thematic Studies.

National Register Recommendations

The first of the two categories, the NeSHPO National Register Follow-Up, is a basic summary of the potential National Register of Historic Places listing activities associated with the Cherry County survey. Save America's Heritage strongly suggests the drafting of nominations for all properties judged by NeSHPO staff as potentially eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. The drafting of these nominations may occur in two basic forms. First, as Multiple Property nominations for all properties which relate to Historic Contexts developed by the NeSHPO, or as individual nominations of the 103 properties listed in the Preliminary Inventory of Cherry County historic properties. The properties which appear in the Preliminary Inventory

are those which appear potentially eligible for the National Register and should be acted upon immediately following the submittal of this report.

Potential Thematic Studies/Multiple Property Nominations

The following priorities for future work recommended by Save America's Heritage are listed thematically. These themes are presented at this point as those which appear to have the greatest potential for development into Historic Context Reports. The basis for these suggestions were derived from pre-survey research, agricultural analyses, and Reconnaissance Survey observations.

1. Sand Hills Range Livestock Production (08.08)

It is Save America's Heritage recommendation that the Sand Hills Range Livestock Production Historic Context Report be developed by the NeSHPO and followed by an investigative study of historic properties within Cherry County which relate to this context. For a discussion of this topic, please refer to the article on Sand Hills Range Livestock Production found on page 165. In addition, a Preliminary Inventory of those properties potentially significant for their association with Sand Hills Range Livestock Production is found on page 64.

2. Criterion D Research Properties

The second subject for potential thematic study is centered around a group of 12 historic properties which, for various reasons, are being presented under the title of Criterion D Research Properties. This title implies that these properties have yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important

to the history of Cherry County. The inclusion of these properties under the "Research" heading may receive some criticism for it is true that all properties included in the Preliminary Inventory of a reconnaissance survey are, in a sense, research properties. However, the eligibility of nine of the properties for National Register listing is somewhat in question due to their abandoned and deteriorated condition. Because of their current state of deterioration, the continued existence of these properties is very much in doubt. They are threatened not only by the possibility of human destruction but also by the ravages of the Sand Hills environment. In addition to these nine properties, the following inventory also includes three Settlement Systems properties capable of yielding information important to the analysis of the historic built environment of Cherry County. Consequently, Save America's Heritage urges the immediate undertaking of intensive surveys for each of the properties presented in the following inventory.



CE00-37: Stone Chicken Shed



CE00-53: Ruins of Stone Fort



CE00-54: Rock Outbuilding



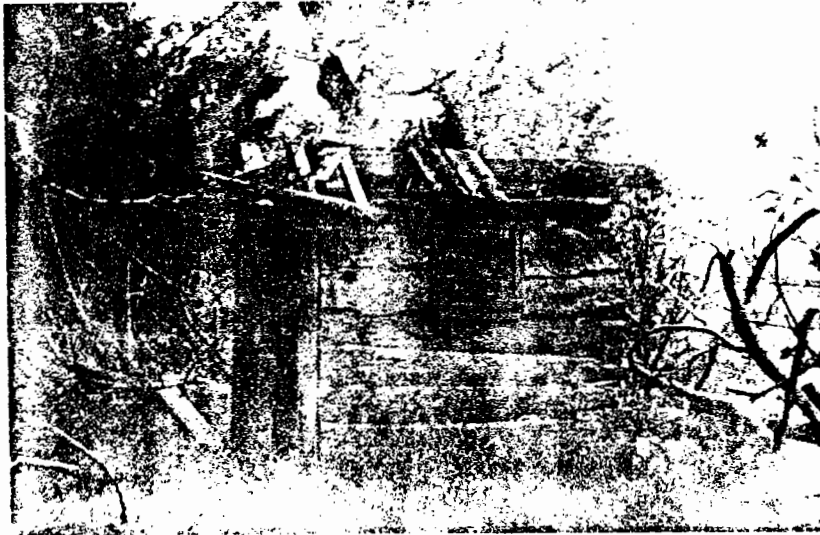
CE00-64: Log House



CE00-78: c.1885 Homestead House



CE00-136: Abandoned Fishing Camp



CE00-144: Log Houses



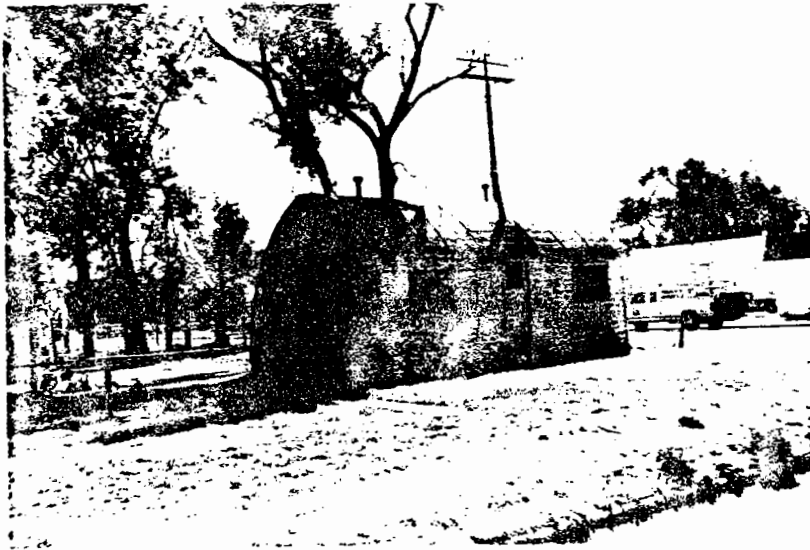
CE00-201: Geisler Sod House



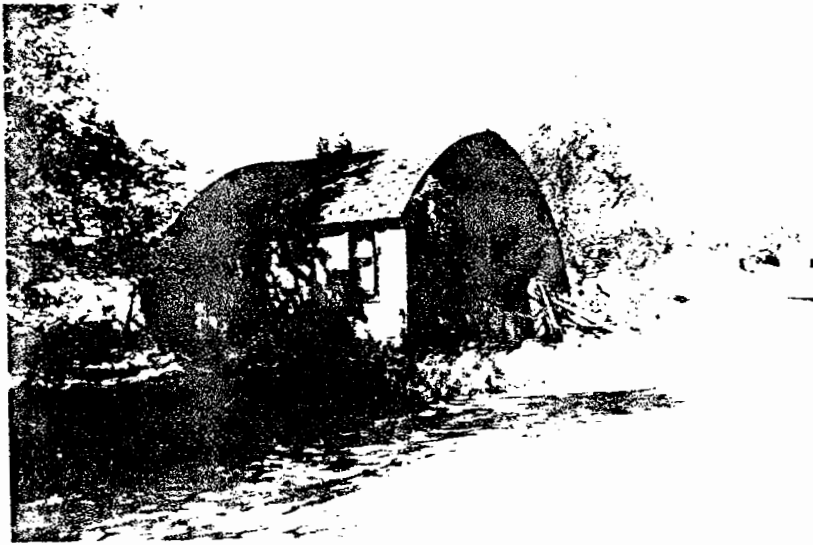
CE00-216: Possible Sod House



CE14-21: Possible Catalogue House



CE14-103: Quansat-Shaped House



CE14-138: Quansat-Shaped House

APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1:

RECONNAISSANCE RESEARCH DESIGN

1. Introduction

It is the intention of this paper to contribute two important functions towards the execution of the Reconnaissance Survey of Cherry County. First, it will provide Save America's Heritage (SAVE) survey team with the guidelines by which the survey will be performed and secondly, it establishes a means of communicating these guidelines to the NeHBS Survey Coordinator for critique and refinement.

The format of this Research Design will be to discuss first the "non-mechanical" aspects of the survey, followed by a discussion of the tasks considered more "mechanical" in nature. The primary purpose of the "mechanical" discussion is to define the documentation process used in the recording of historic properties while the "non-mechanical" discussion will consist of the survey objectives and limitations.

2. Objectives Of Reconnaissance Survey

After completing a preliminary outline of the objectives associated with a reconnaissance survey, it became apparent that there was an obvious division between those objectives which were qualitative in nature and those that were quantitative. This division has organized the reconnaissance objectives into the two listings that follow.

Qualitative Objectives:

The most obvious objective in a reconnaissance survey is the concept of providing a preliminary characterization of the historic resources extant in a particular geographic area. Beyond this are several other objectives which

enhance both the data collected by the survey and the need for the survey itself. First among these additional objectives is the concept of establishing the setting of Nebraska's historic architecture. Each historic building survey performed will generate information which contributes to a statewide knowledge and builds a background with which future survey information can be evaluated.

Secondly, it is the objective of the historic building survey to identify specific properties or geographic areas which, in the event of an intensive survey, would contribute useful information to the above mentioned setting. Further qualitative objectives include: the possible identification of specific building types, the identification of construction methods which may relate to or are unique to the context of Nebraska's historic architecture, the identification of sites worthy of National Register listing, and the expansion of knowledge relative to a specific geographic area within the state context such as ethnic settlement, building technologies and architectural image.

Outline of Qualitative Objectives:

1. To create a community awareness and interest in Historic Preservation and the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP).
2. The documentation of several significant properties potentially eligible for the National Register of Historic Places as individual, multiple property, or historic district nominations.
3. To document information pertinent to the NeSHPO Topical Listing of Historic Contexts and associated property types.
4. To complete a comprehensive, conscientious survey which will generate information useful to the planning process and future surveys.
5. The collation of survey data for planning intensive survey work.
6. To record information useful to the local planning decisions of

the county when assessing projects affecting historic properties. (Section 106) etc.

7. To record any potential links between a particular ethnic settlement and its associated property types within the survey area.
8. To promote historic preservation through the identification and publication of the historic properties located within the county.
9. To identify properties whose owners may be eligible for various kinds of federal, state, and local assistance in the event the owner pursues the preservation, restoration, or rehabilitation of their historic building(s).

Quantitative Objectives:

- A. The recording of an estimated 450 properties in Cherry County at the completion of the survey.
- B. The covering of approximately 1,920,000 acres (3,000 square miles) in Cherry County. In addition, each of the eleven extant towns in Cherry County will be surveyed.
- C. Identification of at least 50 properties worthy of nomination to the National Register of Historic Places.
- D. Identification of at least one possible Historic District or Multiple Property nomination worthy of National Register pursuit.
- E. Evaluating by the following hierarchy those sites for: a) high potential for significance, b) suspicious buildings--those buildings that may be of significance, c) no potential in comparison to others, d) those sites not likely to yield any information.

3. Methods of Reconnaissance Survey.

The "mechanical" aspect of reconnaissance historic building surveys will focus primarily upon the documentation process and corresponding methods used in the recording of historic resources. The recording technique is considered of prime importance and it is the attitude of Save America's Heritage to strive for a conscientious effort and accurate method while recording historic resources. To best communicate our intentions, the following discussion on

survey methods has been organized into three groups. These are: 1) pre-field research, 2) pre-field activities, and 3) field activities.

Pre-Field Research

Following the selection of the survey geographic boundaries by the NeSHPO, the pre-field research is begun and focuses primarily on the performance of archival research. The main purpose of archival research is to identify the nature of the survey area settlement by culture, geographic location, and time frame. In addition, the archival research should attempt to identify potential themes of architectural, cultural, and historical significance within the survey area, should they exist. While it is acknowledged that the extent and availability of research information varies according to the events and background of the area, the following references will be investigated prior to the reconnaissance survey: locally written county histories, county histories written within a statewide history, existing survey data in the NeSHPO site files including survey forms, the files of the NSHS photographic collections, centennial publications on community and church histories, archival maps and atlases, newspaper articles concerning a community's built environment, and literature published by local or county historical groups. The majority of these types of publications can be found in the libraries of state and county historical societies. A bibliography of all sources referenced should be maintained and, along with photocopied information, added to the site files. These general data files are organized according to specific counties, local communities, and individual sites. The files are used prior to reconnaissance survey to familiarize the surveyors with the survey area and are consulted

again in the field during the survey. Added to the general files are all forms of public correspondence received up to the point the survey is begun.

Due to the absence of an existing Historic Overview report, extensive preparation becomes necessary to satisfactorily develop the concepts of the report. The content of the Historic Overview is considered a prime source of pre-survey information. Therefore, the following is an outline of the methodology to be employed by SAVE's personnel during the composition of the county Historic Overview.

Each Historic Overview report will identify important patterns, events, persons, or cultural values pertaining to the county. It is anticipated that the information within the Historic Overview will aid in the identification of property types associated with each individual theme. In the preparation of the Historic Overview, the following will be considered:

- A. Trends in area settlement and development.
- B. Aesthetic and artistic values embodied in architecture, construction technology, or craftsmanship.
- C. Research values or problems relevant to the county, social and physical sciences and humanities, and cultural interests of local communities.
- D. Intangible cultural values of ethnic groups and native American people.

Pre-Field Activities:

The topic of pre-field activities are considered separate from pre-field research on the basis of their more publicly extroverted nature. Save America's Heritage will begin the pre-field activities with the distribution of notices announcing the survey and its intentions to all the general public. This will be done by placing general notices in established commercial and non-commercial facilities of the communities, such as the United States Post Office, grocery stores, coffee shops, etc. Reinforcing this is the dispersal of

press releases to all active newspapers existing in the county. The intent of the release is to inform the public of the survey programs and to solicit their input in the identification of historic resources. In addition to this, communication will be established with the local historians and historical societies detaining our intent and welcoming their possible input. Included in this communication will be information concerning pertinent Historic Contexts and the time frame of the survey. The final task of pre-field activity will be the precautionary attempts to eliminate public suspicion. The justifiable suspicion aroused by survey activities will potentially be eliminated through the listing of survey vehicles and personnel with local police departments and county sheriff patrols.

Field Activities—General:

The first step prior to embarking on the survey would be the assembling of the necessary documents used during the recording of historic properties. This includes town plat maps, USGS 7 1/2 minute topographical maps, county road maps, site files and the preparation of the Historic Overview. The recording of the historic properties will be conducted during the reconnaissance survey and will consist of a four step process: 1) identifying structures, 2) mapping locations, 3) recording of SQLE information and 4) photographic documentation. Any supplemental field notes derived from observations or public communications will also be added.

The reconnaissance photography would consist of two photographs per site from opposite 45 degree angles using a wide angle perspective correcting lens. In certain cases, additional photographs of the more significant buildings will be recorded showing environmental setting, architectural details, or

construction methods. Descriptions of each site will be recorded as required by the SQLE data entry established by the NeSHPO. For domestic buildings, the supratypological analysis developed by The Midwest Vernacular Architecture Committee will be used in the description process. Photographic field notes will also be kept concerning the aspect of the image, exposure number, and corresponding roll number. In addition to the recording of the information listed above, further research will be conducted on those sites which are considered to have greater significance.

A primary concept in the documentation of historic buildings is the recognition that different building types may require different recording techniques. Therefore, it is necessary for the surveyor to define the specific types of information most relevant to the property type being recorded.

4. Reconnaissance Survey Biases

Integrity:

To be listed on the National Register of Historic Places, a property must possess integrity. Integrity is the authenticity of a property's historic identity, evidenced by the survival of physical characteristics that existed during the property's historic period. If a property retains the physical characteristics it possessed in the past then it has the capacity to convey association with historical patterns or persons, architectural design, or information about a culture or people. Consequently, the determination of integrity is considered a most important field activity.

For reconnaissance-level documentation, two very basic questions must first be asked. These are:

1. Is the building at least 50 years old?

2. Does it retain its original integrity?

The answer to question number one is usually quite objective, however, the determination of integrity requires some discussion.

It must first be recognized that the degree of integrity exhibited by historic buildings can vary greatly. The principal investigator must first ask, "Does this property reflect its historic character or has it been altered by the application of contemporary building materials and technologies?" In most instances, the house is the first building scrutinized, especially in the case of town surveys where they represent the majority of extant buildings. However, the importance of "house integrity" is diminished when dealing with buildings located in rural settings. For most cases in Nebraska, this means a farmstead. With the added significance of agricultural-related buildings such as hay, horse and livestock barns, granaries, corn cribs, and elevators, a limited amount of alteration to the house should not prevent the site from being documented. In the case where a farmstead contains a large collection of historic farm buildings but a severely altered house, the site will be documented as a farmstead with a noncontributing house. A final case may exist where a single, highly significant, farm-related building is located within an otherwise altered farmstead. In this event, Save America's Heritage will document the individual building designating a site number solely to the specific building, structure, or object.

Integrity also appears to play an important role in the field documentation of commercial buildings. Traditionally, buildings used for commerce have been adaptively reused by subsequent generations. These buildings are positioned along a primary local thoroughfare or even a regionally important highway, thus

lending appeal to present-day retailers seeking new locations. Often the buildings are physically altered to accommodate new functions and therefore suffer a loss of integrity. With this in mind, only those buildings exhibiting the visual characteristics of their historic period will be documented.

In summary, the determination of integrity will be based upon the historic retention of the following physical characteristics.

- Materials:** Does the building retain the original materials from its period of historic importance?
- Location:** Is the building placed in its original location or has it been moved?
- Design:** Does the building reflect the design aesthetics of its historic period?
- Setting:** Does the building reflect a historic sense of place? Does the historic image and feel still exist?
- Function:** Does the building represent its historic use?

Characteristics of Rural Integrity:

With the concept of Rural Historic Districts added to the National Register process, the principal investigator is forced to develop new visual sensitivities which are sympathetic to the qualities of rural settings. New methods of survey and research must be added to our understanding of both the built and natural environment and the historic relationship between them.

With this in mind, Save America's Heritage will attempt, without contractual obligation, to observe the following characteristics of potential significance to rural historic enclaves:

- * The condition and presence of features, natural and built, which relate to a historic period of importance.
- * The ability of a rural environment to reflect a sense of a past time or place.
- * Potential unifying factors which may link rural properties together.
- * The overall patterns of landscape spatial organization (land forms, natural features, material components).
- * Land-use categories and activities (farming, ranching, recreation).
- * Response to natural features (landform affect on material components).
- * Boundaries (cultural, political, or natural).
- * Cluster arrangements (position of material elements within landscape).

- setting).
- * Ecological context (Niobrara River Valley).
- * Integrity: Loss of natural features that were historically integral to the rural setting and intrusion of non-contributing features.

5. Anticipated Property Types.

Save America's Heritage anticipates the identification of historic properties in each of the following nine categories.

Religion: Churches, church schools, parsonages, and convents

Aesthetic Systems: decorative Arts, sculpture, paintings.

Government: Courthouses, Post Offices, Town Halls.

Association: Fraternal, service and social organizations.

Education: Schools, libraries, museums.

Diversions: Park grounds, theaters, recreational facilities.

Agriculture: hay/horse barns, cattle barns, hog barns, cattle fences, cellars, cob houses, orchards, windmills, windbreaks, pump systems, cattle loafing sheds, hog loafing sheds, farrowing houses, corn cribs, wash houses, summer kitchen, chicken houses, brooder houses, machine shops, implement sheds, granaries, silos, elevators, and stock tank systems.

Processing Industries: Meat packing, dairy, poultry.

Commerce: stores, hotels, elevators.

Transportation: Gas stations, rail depots, motels, auto showrooms.

Communications: Telephone, newspaper, and publishing houses.

Services: Professional, financial and health buildings.

Settlement Systems: Houses, apartments and boarding houses.

6. Evaluation Process and Criteria

Process of Evaluation:

Two primary reasons exist for the evaluation of the resources documented by the Historic Building Survey. The first is the identification of properties worthy of nomination to the National Register of Historic Places, and the second is the designation of those properties to be preserved by local planning processes. The National Register criterion A, B, C, and D as translated by the Historic Context Reports shall be the basis for evaluation.

The Preliminary Inventory is the primary reference list of all properties within Cherry County that are potentially eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). Therefore, its primary purpose is to define

the entire "pool" of historic resources which appear potentially eligible for listing.

The Preliminary inventory also fulfills additional roles which include its use as a guide for suggesting future work in the study area and the identification of building types which are no longer extant or never existed within the study area. The analysis of the inventoried data may also provide the NeSHPO with answers to the following questions:

1. What percentage of the total number of properties surveyed were worthy of intensive survey on the basis of their association to an identified historic theme or to a preliminarily identified Historic Context?
2. What percentage of the total number of properties surveyed were worthy of intensive survey as non-historic context sites?
3. What percentage of those properties noted during the field survey, as potentially significant were actually found to be significant?

Save America's Heritage originally viewed the assembling of the Preliminary Inventory as a two-step process consisting of survey and review. However, as outlined below, a refined methodology has evolved from previous survey experience which now involves several levels of evaluation. What has emerged is a more in-depth compilation of potential NRHP sites using a variety of historic and contemporary resources.

1. Initial base list of potentially eligible properties derived from review of reconnaissance survey documentation.
2. Review of contact sheets and property descriptions performed to add or delete base-list properties.
3. Review all published county, church, and centennial histories, with particular emphasis on historic building citations concerning the base-list properties.
4. Contact local historical societies for input on histories of base-list properties.
5. Second base-list review with application of criterion to derive final lists

of sites which:

a) are strongly recommended for NRHP listing, and b) may not be strongly recommended for listing but contribute to the character of the historic built environment.

Criteria For Evaluation:

If the ultimate goal of the Nebraska Historic Buildings Survey is indeed the identification of properties worthy of National Register listing, then the definitions and criteria established by the NRHP become the primary concepts by which the significance of a historic property is evaluated.

The National Register defines a historic property as a district, site, building, structure, or object significant in American history, architecture, engineering, archeology, and culture. A historic context is a broad pattern of historical development in a community or its region, that may be represented by historic resources. The use of historic contexts provides a mechanism for translating the broad National Register criteria into locally meaningful terms. For example, the National Register criteria allow any property that is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past to be regarded as eligible for listing, but it is the historic contexts of the area that define who such people were (p. 55, National Register Bulletin, No. 24, V. 5, Department of the interior). With this in mind, the National Register criteria translated into local meaning by the Historic Context Reports are as follows:

The quality of significance in American history, architecture, archeology, and culture is present in districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, and:

A. that are associated with events that have made a significant

-
- contribution to the broad patterns of our history; or
- B. that are associated with the lives of persons significant in our past;
or
- C. that embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or
method of construction or that represent the work of a master, or
that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant
and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual
distinction; or
- D. that have yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in
prehistory or history.

APPENDIX 2:

Supratype Master List For Cherry County Supratypes

S.TYPE NUMBER	HSE. SH.	HSE. SZ.	HSE. HT.	HSE. RF.	HSE. OR.	%CE	#
S.1	I	1.0	1.0	H	La	0.26	1
S.2	L	0.5	1.0	G	Lo	0.52	2
S.3	L	1.0	1.0	G	Lo	0.78	3
S.4	L	1.0	1.5	G	La	0.26	1
S.5	L	1.0	1.5	G	Lo	0.52	2
S.6	R	0.5	1.0	G	La	2.10	8
S.7	R	0.5	1.0	G	Lo	3.10	12
S.8	R	0.5	1.5	G	Lo	0.26	1
S.9	R	1.0	1.0	G	La	9.00	35
S.10	R	1.0	1.0	G	Lo	8.30	32
S.11	R	1.0	1.0	Gj	La	0.26	1
S.12	R	1.0	1.0	H	La	1.04	4
S.13	R	1.0	1.0	H	Lo	1.04	4
S.14	R	1.0	1.0	Ht	La	0.52	2
S.15	R	1.0	1.0	Q	La	0.52	2
S.16	R	1.0	1.5	G	La	4.40	17
S.17	R	1.0	1.5	G	Lo	3.10	12
S.18	R	1.0	2.0	G	La	0.26	1
S.19	R	1.5	1.0	F	La	0.26	1
S.20	R	1.5	1.0	G	La	9.30	36
S.21	R	1.5	1.0	G	Lo	12.10	47
S.22	R	1.5	1.0	Gg	Lo	0.52	2
S.23	R	1.5	1.0	Gj	La	0.52	2
S.24	R	1.5	1.0	Gj	La	0.52	2
S.25	R	1.5	1.0	H	La	1.04	4
S.26	R	1.5	1.0	H	Lo	6.20	24
S.27	R	1.5	1.0	Hg	La	0.26	1
S.28	R	1.5	1.0	Hg	Lo	0.26	1
S.29	R	1.5	1.0	Hp	Lo	0.26	1
S.30	R	1.5	1.0	Ht	La	1.30	5
S.31	R	1.5	1.5	G	La	2.10	8
S.32	R	1.5	1.5	G	Lo	2.30	9
S.33	R	1.5	1.5	Ga	Lo	0.26	1
S.34	R	1.5	2.0	G	La	1.80	7
S.35	R	1.5	2.0	G	Lo	0.26	1
S.36	R	1.5	2.0	Gg	Lo	0.26	1
S.37	R	2.0	1.0	G	La	1.30	5
S.38	R	2.0	1.0	G	Lo	1.04	4

S.39	R	2.0	1.0	Gg	La	0.26	1
S.40	R	2.0	1.0	H	Lo	0.52	2
S.41	R	2.0	1.0	Ht	La	0.26	1
S.42	R	2.0	2.0	G	Lo	0.78	3
S.43	R	1.0	1.0	G	Lo	0.26	1
S.44	S	0.5	1.0	G	Lo	0.26	1
S.45	S	1.5	1.0	G	Lo	0.26	1
S.46	S	1.5	1.0	H	La	0.26	1
S.47	S	1.5	1.0	H	Na	6.50	25
S.48	S	1.5	1.0	Hp	Na	1.80	7
S.49	S	1.5	1.0	Ht	Na	3.60	14
S.50	S	1.5	1.5	Gj	Na	0.26	1
S.51	S	1.5	1.5	H	Na	0.26	1
S.52	S	2.0	1.0	G	La	0.26	1
S.53	S	2.0	1.0	H	Na	0.26	1
S.54	S	2.0	1.5	H	Na	0.52	2
S.55	S	2.0	2.0	H	Na	2.30	9
S.56	S	2.0	2.0	Hp	Na	0.26	1
S.57	S	2.0	2.0	Ht	Na	0.52	2
S.58	T	0.5	1.0	G	La	0.26	1
S.59	T	1.0	1.0	G	La	0.26	1
S.60	T	1.0	1.0	G	Lo	0.78	3
S.61	T	1.0	1.5	G	Lo	0.26	1
S.62	T	1.0	1.5	Gg	La	0.26	1
S.63	T	1.5	1.5	G	La	0.26	1
S.64	T	1.5	1.5	G	Lo	0.26	1
S.65	U	1.0	1.0	G	Lo	0.26	1

APPENDIX 3:

Index of Abbreviations

The following index attempts to explain the abbreviations used by the survey team while recording historic buildings in the nine county area of the northern Nebraska Sand Hills survey project. These abbreviations were developed as a means of expediting the survey recording process. The need for abbreviations was especially necessary in the recording of rural-based historic properties. In these cases, every effort was made to note each building, structure and object which contributed to the historic character of the property. Many of the abbreviations were developed by the NeSHPO during their former surveys of historic buildings throughout Nebraska. The remaining group of abbreviations were developed by Save America's Heritage with the approval of the NeSHPO.

Fr.	= Frame
Br.	= Brick
Conc. Blk.	= Concrete Block
Frmhse.	= Farmhouse
Frmstd.	= Farmstead
Hse.	= House
S.K.	= Summer Kitchen
Ckn. Hse.	= Chicken House
Gar.	= Garage
Gran.	= Granary
D.T. Gran.	= Drive-thru Granary
D.T. Crib	= Drive-thru Crib
L.S.	= Loafing Shed

Addn.	= Addition
Cent.	= Central
Enc.	= Enclosed
Att.	= Attached
Perpend.	= Perpendicular
Symm.	= Symmetrical
Lg.	= Large
G.W.D.	= Gable Wall Dormer
Gab.	= Gable
Drmr.	= Dormer
Aban.	= Abandoned
Det.	= Deteriorated
Outbldg.	= Outbuilding

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